UN files
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The Canadian Jewish news

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HISTORIC ANNIVERSARY

The 10th anniversary of Anwar Sadat's historic trip to Israel, which paved the way for Israel's peace treaty with Egypt two years later, was marked recently in a ceremony in Israel. Shaking hands are Ahmed El-Masir, the Egyptian consul in Eilat (centre), Eleazar Granot, secretary of the Mapam Party (right), and Michael Eitan, a Likud member of the Knesset. [IPPA photo]

New pact bolsters Israel-U.S. links

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Israel Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci signed a memorandum of understanding last week that boosts Israel's status to the equivalent of a NATO ally of the United States.

The agreement, signed at the Pentagon at the beginning of Rabin's 3-day visit here, provides for the United States and Israel to carry out joint military research and development programs. It also allows Israel to bid on military sales to the Pentagon on the same basis as NATO members.

Israel joins a select group of five major non-NATO allies of the United States that also comprises Australia, Egypt, Japan and South Korea.

The memorandum takes on new importance in the wake of Israel's agreement, under pressure from the United States, to cancel development of the Lavi jet fighter. The new pact is expected to help save many of the Israel Aircraft Industry jobs lost by the cancellation.

Pentagon sources noted that the memorandum is the latest in a series of cooperation agreements with Israel since the 1970s, including the 4-year-old memorandum on strategic cooperation.

After the signing, Rabin and Carlucci held a meeting that included a working lunch. Rabin also had separate meetings with the civilian secretaries of the military branches as well as with Gen. Colin Powell, President Reagan's national security advisor; Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead; and former Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Rabin also met with individual members of Congress and with officials of General Dynamics Corp., manufacturer of the F-16 jet fighter, which Israel agreed to substitute for the Lavi.

Palestinian rioting gives Israel problems

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel faced challenges on the diplomatic, domestic and propaganda fronts last week as it tried to quell the worst outbreaks of violence in 20 years in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

The Israeli army says 13 Palestinians have been killed and more than 50 wounded in the civil unrest. Several troops have sustained injuries in putting down the protests.

The trouble in Gaza, which is most seriously affected by rioting, began after a heavy Israeli truck killed four Arabs in what was described as a traffic accident. Arabs charged that the driver ran them down intentionally in revenge for last month's Palestinian glider plane attack in nothern Galilee that left six Israeli soldiers dead.

Friendly Western countries, including the United States, Britain and West Germany, have expressed concern and displeasure over the mounting toll of Palestinian dead and wounded in clashes with the Israel Defence Force. Similar feelings were conveyed by Mohammad Bassiouny, the ambassador of Egypt, the only Arab country at peace with Israel.

Meanwhile, unrest in East Jerusalem, linked to events in the territories, has spread to Israel's normally quiescent Arab population.

Peaceful demonstrations of solidarity with their peers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip were held in Nazareth, the largest Arab township in Israel, and in several Arab villages. They were organized by the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, a front of Israel's Communist Party.

At the same time, the National Committee of Arab Mayors, considered the most influential Arab organization in Israel, has urged the government to leave the territories to put an end to the bloodshed. The mayors were considering calling a general strike in sympathy with the West Bank and Gaza Arabs.

In addition, Israel is facing an image problem that may be as serious as the one during the Lebanon war in 1982. For more than a week now, television and front-page newspaper photographs all over the world have shown IDF troops in full battle gear roughing up Palestinian rioters.

The Reagan administration has already told Israel at the highest levels that it opposes many of its actions in the territories. United States Ambassador Thomas Pickering met with Premier Yitzhak Shamir to discuss the situation.

Shamir expressed Israel's regret for the loss of lives, but he blamed the Palestine Liberation Organization and "Arab inciters" for aggravating the situation.

He stressed to the American envoy that the IDF and the police are exercising maximum restraint to avoid clashes with the local population, and he expressed confidence that the territories will soon be calm.

In Washington, visiting

[Cont'd on page 13]

No expulsion for PLO mission

Canada supports UN vote

By
BELINDA SILBERMAN

Canada supports the United Nations' efforts to prevent the U.S. Congress from shutting down the small New York office of the Palestinian Liberation Organization's observer mission to the UN.

The U.S. has a legal obligation to allow the PLO to maintain its mission office and closing it could set a "dangerous precedent" for other observer missions to the UN, said Rejane Dodd, a Canadian external affairs department spokesman.

Canada was one of 100 countries which voted Dec. 11 in favor of a UN resolution calling upon the U.S. government to refrain from taking measures to expel the PLO office, Dodd said in a telephone interview from Ottawa.

All Western countries except for the U.S., which did not participate, voted in favor of the resolution. Israel was the only country to cast a negative vote.

The resolution was introduced by Zimbabwe and co-sponsored by 37 other countries, including many Third World nations. Canada was not part of this sponsoring group.

Following the vote by the UN's legal committee, Canadian diplomat Philippe Kirsch told the panel his country was in favor of the resolution because it believes there is "an important point of principle" at stake.

Under the Headquarters agreement, the UN's host country has a legal obligation to allow the PLO to maintain its offices in N.Y., Kirsch said.

This is seen "as essential to the carrying out of its (PLO's) functions as an invitee of the General Assembly," he said.

Although Canada doesn't regard the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, it acknowledges that it represents "a significant element of Palestinian opinion," Kirsch also told the panel.

"As such, we value effective communication with the PLO, and its observer mission to the United Nations is useful to us for this purpose," he said.

"In the search for a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, no channel of communication and dialogue should be neglected.

"Palestinians must play a full part in negotiations to determine their future and contacts which are made possible through the PLO observer mission are important for this purpose," Kirsch noted.

The Canada-Israel Committee — representing B'nai B'rith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress, Canadian Zionist Federation and Canada's Jewish communities — has voiced concern over Kirsch's explanation of Canada's vote.

The remarks "have to raise concerns about the direction of Canadian policy," said Sidney Spivak, the committee's national chairman.

Spivak said Canada's

[Cont'd. on page 13]

"Skinheads" join neo-Nazis

CHICAGO — Gangs of shaven-headed youths wearing neo-Nazi insignias and preaching violence against Blacks, Jews and other minorities have become a menacing presence in several cities across the United States, according to an Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith report made public recently.

Known as "skinheads," the groups have attacked individuals and engaged in vandalism and other criminal acts in cities including Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Detroit, Orlando, Tampa, San Jose and several communities in Orange County, Calif.

Burton S. Levinson, ADL's national chairman, said that although the current estimated number of skinhead activities nationwide is small — several hundred — their ranks are growing. He warned that they have the potential for attracting alienated youth, particularly because of their close association with hard-driving music known as "white power" rock.

In issuing the report at a session of ADL's national executive committee meeting here, Levinson noted that the skinheads are regarded as potential recruits by the neo-Nazi movement which has courted them with some success in recent years. He made clear, however, that not all who adopt skinhead styles of haircut and dress are racists or neo-Nazis.

The most active of the skinhead gangs, according to ADL, is based in Chicago and calls itself "Romantic Violence." Its leader, Clark Reid Martell,

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Divisive issues not welcome

TORONTO —

It is inappropriate to introduce divisive religious and political issues into the agenda of the World Zionist Organization, the president of the Mizrachi Organization of Canada says.

Kurt Rothschild's comments come in the wake of the "fierce and at times unruly conflicts at the recently concluded Congress in Jerusalem."

The WZO is a voluntary federation of many groups of diverse ideologies bound together for the purpose of promoting the interests of Israel, of Jewish education, and the future of the Jewish people, he says.

See page 3 for related stories

"It can only function in a peaceful and constructive atmosphere of mutual cooperation, to deal in the most economical and productive manner with the specific tasks that are appropriate for the WZO and which would enable it to make a contribution to the welfare of Israel and the World Jewish Community."

Rothschild says that the coalition formed prior to the Congress by Labor with the Reform and Conservative movements and the Confederation (including American Hadassah) gave this group an exaggerated feeling of strength and of ability to control all proceedings, resolutions and appointments—all this in the name of democracy.

The events of the last day of the Congress were clear evidence that this approach cannot "float"—the opposition will either fight fiercely and vociferously or just withdraw from the WZO, he said.

"The WZO now is regarded of questionable value and is severely criticized by all sections of

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Stay tuned

So as to catch the mails before the holidays, this Dec. 24 issue of The CJN went to press on Thursday, Dec. 17 — four days ahead of the usual schedule.

We'll update you on the news that happened in the interim in our next issue, scheduled for Jan. 7, 1988.

Again, because of the New Year's holiday, deadlines for the Jan. 7 issue have been advanced. Editorial deadline is Monday, Dec. 21, in Toronto. Advertising deadlines: Tuesday, Dec. 29 at noon for organizational and classified; Wednesday, Dec. 30 afternoon for display.

World-National

Suicide statistics surprising

By
RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

The subject of suicide is as complex as it is grievous. The more one studies it the more one realizes that there are no simple answers. Each case is different and each tragedy has its own ambience.

Yet there are trends and tendencies that can elucidate our understanding, and by now there are specialists whose life work concentrates on the comprehension of an act which represents the most extreme solution to one's problems.

Rabbi Plaut

The latest of these studies was reported in the York Gazette, an illustrated newsletter published by the communications department of York University. Its headline proclaims: "Global suicide rates reveal surprising patterns," and a summation states: "For every suicide in Israel there are two in Canada and six in Hungary. . . ."

The study was made by Prof. Toyamasa Fuse, the author of Suicide and Culture.

Last summer the professor was the guest of Ben-Gurion University in the Negev and conducted primary research on suicide in Israel, a country in which the problem of self-destruction has been far less than in most developed countries.

Numerous factors

According to Fuse, Jews in the Diaspora have a lower suicide rate than Protestants and about the same as Roman Catholics. He believes that a number of factors play a role: the old Jewish tradition of considering suicide as being against God's will (except under the rarest of circumstances); the persecution of our people which has forced us to be cohesive as a community; and the strong support systems which are generally available.

In Israel, the suicide rate is 6.8 per 100,000 people, compared with 15 in Canada and 45 in Hungary, which has the highest rate in the world. Prof. Fuse thinks that life in Jerusalem gave him a cue to the statistics:

"In most big cities you find movies and night clubs, in Jerusalem you find a lot more lectures and other events oriented to social service, such as on how to care for Holocaust survivors. The whole city is geared to social service and caring for sick and suffering Israelis . . . [They] also have an extremely efficient network of distress centres, called ERAN, staffed by well trained listeners."

Struggle for survival

He also thinks that the warm weather may contribute to the relatively low rate. He quotes other scientists as confirming that sunny climates produce fewer suicides. Thus, the suicide rate in Mediterranean countries is consistently lower than in northern Europe.

But weather is only one factor. Religion, too, impacts on the problem, which explains why devoutly Catholic Ireland in the north ranks low on the list. Confession, says Fuse, provides instant guilt resolution and thereby a significant reduction of anxiety. In contrast, Protestant tradition, which stresses guilt and perfectionism, produces high rates of self-destruction. Hungary, East and West Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Finland and Denmark are always in the top 10 — though not Sweden, because it has a highly developed social support system.

But these figures may be skewed, because in Communist countries suicide rates are reported without reservation, while in capitalist societies they are often disguised because of social pressures and because of escape clauses in life insurance policies.

Surprisingly, poverty has little effect on suicide rates, and the underdeveloped countries have lower rates than the developed. Where everybody is in the same boat and struggles for survival there is little room for the kind of individual despair which leads a person to commit the final act.

Gaon seeks to uplift Sephardim

By
ANDREW MUCHIN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The 60-year-old World Sephardi Federation is undergoing a potentially fundamental transformation — carefully crafted by its president and organizational leader of the last 16 years, Nessim Gaon of Geneva.

Federation leaders, including Gaon, recruited more than 200 local Sephardi leaders from throughout the Jewish Diaspora this summer to serve on the federation's newly created board of governors, which was Gaon's idea.

The obvious effect was to broaden the financial and power base of the federation, as the leaders, from 16 countries, each pledged $15,000 over the next three years, or $3.3 million.

Although the federation's decision-making bodies now represent a wider geography of views, whether the federation will become any more democratic in its pursuits on behalf of Jews of Mediterranean origin is still in question. So, too, is the speed with which it can expand its programming, an avowed priority. The federation did not even recognize the board of governors as an official policy-making body until Dec. 2, the last of three days of the federation's World Sephardi Congress held here. By then, the congress had no time to consider the other priorities that Gaon and other leaders had expressed throughout the congress:

- To foster a general resurgence of pride and unity among the world's 2.5 million Sephardim.
- To improve and increase Sephardi education to prevent assimilation in the Diaspora.
- To resuscitate their traditions in Israel, including Orthodox but moderate religious practices, and reclaim their yeshivas from the Ashkenazi religious authorities.
- To increase educational and developmental assistance to Israel's 1.2 million Sephardim, a slight majority of Israel's Jewish population, but an overwhelming majority of the Jewish poor.
- To utilize their origin in Arab lands to the advantage of Israel by opening channels of dialogue with Arab states. The congress left those issues to the presidium, the top policy-making body, which presumably will approve them. That procedure was Gaon's idea.

It was also Gaon, a 64-year-old Sudanese-born businessman and international Jewish leader, who revived the moribund federation in 1971. He has served as president of the world body ever since. His ideas and activity have spurred three recent major accomplishments.

He won approval in 1978, from then-Premier Menachem Begin, for Project Renewal, the Diaspora-Israeli cooperative rebuilding of Israel's impoverished development towns, which mainly comprise Sephardim.

Under his leadership, the world federation has introduced, with the Jewish Agency, a scholarship program that has sent 7,000 underprivileged students to Israeli universities, and a bar mitzvah program that has provided the education, ceremony and gifts to 5,000 underprivileged boys.

The recruitment of the board of governors, undertaken in cooperation with Alberto Nasser of Rio de Janeiro and Stephen and Liliane Shalom of New York, transported Gaon throughout the Americas in August. Both he and Nasser said the local leaders told them they had awaited for years the opportunity to move from their local posts into the world Jewish scene.

Why now? Until a few years ago, it was impossible to consider such a step or talk of a Sephardi resurgence, Gaon explained during an interview last week in his [redacted] the Laromme [redacted] site of th[redacted]

The Sep[redacted] faced major [redacted] at the outset of [redacted] institutionalized [redacted] lack of educational [redacted] tunity, dissolving family [redacted] structure. "All this needed most of our time and attention," he said, leaving few resources for other efforts.

But, the impeccably dressed, multilingual man added, "the situation greatly improved and is continually improving." In this new atmosphere, Gaon has urged the federation to centralize its programming in Israel with the establishment of Sephardi House, a combination Sephardi world community centre and administrative office.

Gaon said ideally the house would include the Sephardi communities department of the World Zionist Organization, with its $650,000 budget. He complained that half the Sephardim who went to the Diaspora, Gaon was [redacted] 1949, chose other locales. **Israel confiscated their fortunes at the border, he explained, leaving them impoverished, and then left them to languish in development towns. That was all he would say.**

Gaon, who is president of the Israel Bonds organization in Switzerland, proposes a parallel program in which the development towns would offer local bonds, backed by the national government or the Jewish Agency, in order to raise from $200 million to $400 million to provide opportunities for employment.

The vast socioeconomic differences among Sephardim were reflected in the makeup of this year's congress. Some of the Diaspora Sephardim had made fortunes in one or two generations, while the poverty of the Israeli Sephardim was a major focus of the proceedings. Did

Another Diaspora-Israeli difference nearly ruptured the federation, but instead demonstrated Gaon's personal suasion. The Israelis heatedly opposed Gaon's approved organizational restructuring plan, because it lowered Israeli representation on the federation presidium from one-half to less than one-third. The top leaders from both sides met in Gaon's suite until the wee hours, agreeing to give the Israelis 14 of 35 seats on an expanded presidium.

Glasnost still holds a secret: Gorbachev talks to his wife

By
ELLEN GOODMAN

BOSTON — At last the Soviets have arrived, dressed in their best Western garb, and bearing their finest glasnost. But there is one little secret they still want to keep from the folks back home: Mikhail Gorbachev talks with his wife.

When the Soviets released the Tom Brokaw interview for home viewing, something was missing. It had nothing to do with Star Wars or human rights or Afghanistan. It had to do with Raisa.

Brokaw had asked Gorbachev, "Do you go home in the evening and discuss with her national policies, political difficulties and so on in this country?" Gorbachev replied, "We discuss everything."

Well, Sergei, hand me the splicer.

The decision to edit out the last exchange was not, I am sure, made lightly. Raisa Gorbachev is the first truly visible first lady of the Soviet Union. With the Western role, she has gotten the Western perks: the high profile and the low blows.

In the Soviet Union, she is alternately criticized as a clothes horse with a credit card and a petticoat behind the throne. Too frivolous and too powerful.

Does this all sound familiar? Nancy and Raisa must have had a lot to talk about over their coffee.

In the Soviet Union, the image of women is rather like a multi-tiered cake. One layer of Russian traditionalism. A second of Marxist equality. Covered with a frosting of romanticism.

The Lenins, Vladimir and Krupskaya, were about as close to partners as you find in modern Russian history. But Stalin, whose own wife committed suicide, was no friend of the Lenins' feminism.

Mrs. Khrushchev was little more than a huddled mass behind her man, one of the myriad political wives captioned only: "spouse." As for Chernenko, nobody even knew whether he had a wife until she appeared at his funeral.

Today the modern Soviet woman is under pressures that may seem familiar to Americans. I once discussed "the problem of women" with the editor of the Soviet Workingwoman's Magazine. This young mother talked energetically about improving working conditions, and sentimentally about encouraging readers to be more "womanly" at home.

Her magazine ran a contest to elicit the best ideas for changing the workplace. And the prize for the contest was a miniature glass slipper. Cinderella with a 5-year-plan for Prince Charming?

Coming out of an atmosphere of mixed messages, Raisa Gorbachev gives hope to many of the Soviet women for the same reason she infuriates others: simply by portraying an intelligent and attractive woman. But in no way has she solved "the problem of women." There or here.

A sociologist by training, at some point she too found it impossible to play both professor and politician's wife. Now she has replaced her old title with a new one: partner. Traveling partner for sure. But political partner?

The new woman of the Soviet Union is not unlike the next generation of American first ladies. From Liddy Dole to Hattie Babbitt, many of the presidential candidates' wives now come with their own professions.

The American public also comes with lingering prejudices about how much power an unofficial partner should wield and how much independence she can show. We're not entirely comfortable with a first lady who leaves the White House every morning for her office. Nor do we want a co-President making decisions in the Oval Office.

This business of being a marital partner to President or Premier is likely to remain as tricky as being fashionable without being vain, and being strong without being uppity.

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Campaigning for years

Rebbe presses for changes to Law of Return

By
CHARLES HOFFMAN

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — Along with the picture of Theodor Herzl, there should have been a picture of the Lubavitcher Rebbe in the corridors of the Zionist Congress in Jerusalem. This was the Rebbe's Congress.

For the past several years, the chassidic leader, who resides among his followers in Brooklyn, has orchestrated a political campaign to change the Law of Return so that immigrants to Israel who have been converted by non-Orthodox rabbis will not be regarded as Jews by the government.

This campaign, aimed mainly at the religious parties in the Knesset, has so far failed to fulfil its main purpose. But it has produced a remarkable reaction from an unexpected quarter.

According to Prof. Arthur Hertzberg, a Labor delegate to the Congress: "The Lubavitcher Rebbe created the conditions that led to a takeover of the World Zionist Organization by a coalition composed of the Israeli left and the liberal Diaspora."

The backlash to the campaign to change the Law of Return occurred mainly among American Jewry on two fronts.

The first was a broad coalition of Jewish organizations led by the Council of Jewish Federations and backed by the United Jewish Appeal, which has persistently warned the Israeli establishment that capitulation to the Orthodox on the issue would cause a severe rift with the Diaspora.

This warning clearly implied that a change in the Law of Return would torpedo fund raising for the Jewish Agency and WZO, since most of the contributors are affiliated with the Reform or Conservative movements.

This concern spilled over into the Agency itself two years ago when, for the first time, the Agency assembly took a strong stand on an internal Israeli political issue by condemning the attempt to change the Law of Return.

The second political backlash from the Diaspora came on the Zionist front, however, and was felt in the elections to the Zionist Congress earlier this year.

The American Reform Zionist organization, Arza, increased its representation by one-third at the Congress; the Conservative Zionist organization, Mercaz, increased its representation from zero to 22 delegates. Both also gained votes as a result of attempts in the Agency/WZO to deny them their fair share of funds.

The groups hit hardest by the backlash were Hadassah, the largest component in the Confederation of United Zionists, and the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), which had provided the backbone of the Likud's support in America.

Reform and Conservative Jews make up the bulk of their members, and many of them "crossed over" to vote for Arza and Mercaz. Thus, the elections to the Congress put Labor in a commanding position, and in the months preceding the Congress, Labor put together a coalition which controlled about two-thirds of the votes.

Labor's winning coalition consisted of Mapam, the Confederation, Mercaz and the worldwide Reform group, Arzeinu. All this did not, however, come together in a vacuum. Labor has been cultivating its ties with the Reform movement since the late 1970s, and an ideological affinity emerged between them on a number of issues, particularly the peace process.

In addition, Labor kept its promise to oppose efforts to change the Law of Return, even though this jeopardized its poistion with the Orthodox parties.

The Likud contributed to its own downfall in the WZO by repeatedly and blatantly supporting attempts to change the Law of Return. The Likud did not advance its cause either with "the Americans" (as it described Labor's partners) by its heavy-handed efforts to knock them out of the Labor orbit.

The Likud strategists mistakenly thought that a few appearances by the debonair Gideon Patt and some eloquent words from Moshe Arens — bolstered by threats and pressures from other quarters — would be sufficient to win the day.

But the determination of the Confederation, Mercaz and Arzeinu to stick with the agreement with Labor, through all the ups and downs preceeding the Congress, won grudging praise even from Patt when he conceded defeat in his contest with Labor's Simcha Dinitz for the key post of Jewish Agency/WZO chairman.

From the moment the Zionist Congress convened, the Labor bloc steamrolled its way through procedural challenges and obstructionist tactics adopted by the Likud. Then it successfully navigated Dinitz to an impressive 310-220 majority over Patt for the post of chairman.

In addition to the WZO Executive portfolios promised by Labor, the Mercaz and Arzeinu delegates had other reasons for preferring Labor over the Likud.

In the past, the Confederation supported the candidate of whichever party was in power in Israel, but with a national unity government at the helm it was faced with a critical choice at the Congress — and in the event it opted for Labor.

The choice was dictated not only by the promise of a major portfolio, but also by the fact that the Confederation could not possibly stay outside the bloc that had opposed a change in the Law of Return.

It would have been suicidal for the Confederation — specifically Hadassah — to put itself in the position of the ZOA, which had painted itself into an electoral corner due to its close identification with the Likud.

Thus, the Who-is-a-Jew issue became one of the most rivetting topics debated by the Congress, even though it was not even formally on the agenda.

Moreover, it seemed that only when speakers addressed this issue did the constant din and commotion in the main auditorium cease, albeit momentarily.

Outgoing WZO-Jewish Agency chairman Arye Dulzin raised the issue in a dramatic way on the first day by appealing to the

The Lubavitcher Rebbe

leaders of both major parties — Shimon Peres of Labor and Yitzhak Shamir of the Likud — to make a pact to take this divisive issue off Israel's political agenda.

Peres readily agreed, but Arens, who was standing in for Shamir, did not even respond.

Dulzin sought to underscore his message: "Since the international organizations of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform joined the WZO (in the late 1970s)," he said, "the pluralism within the Jewish people has received full expression in the Zionist movement."

He also urged all Israeli parties, including the Likud and the National Religious Party, "not to lend a hand to the initiatives of anti-Zionist haredim (ultra-Orthodox), who want to force Israel to take a step that will split the Jewish people."

Indeed, Dulzin deserves much of the credit for encouraging religious pluralism over the years within the Agency/WZO, and it was his insistence on holding elections for this Congress — over the opposition of Hadassah and the ZOA — that enabled the Reform and Conservative movements to achieve their significant gains.

The issue was also raised in the opening ceremony by Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapiro, who said, referring to non-Orthodox conversions, that "It is a disgrace to pass off a goy as a Jew."

This prompted an angry rebuttal by Arza president Rabbi Charles Kroloff, who said in a statement that the Chief Rabbi's "incendiary and divisive statement confirms our belief that the office of the Chief Rabbi is an anachronism that ought to be eliminated for the sake of Israel and the Jewish people."

"His remarks," added the Arza president, "are a depressing reminder that the only kind of Jewish unity the Orthodox forces are interested in is one that maintains their political power and that desires to fashion the Jewish state in their own image, without regard to the needs and desires of most Israelis and most Jews around the world."

Shapiro acknowledges opposition

By
HAIM SHAPIRO

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — Israel's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapiro was not surprised by the shouts of protest that greeted him when he spoke at the recent Zionist Congress in Jerusalem.

In an interview with The Jerusalem Post, the Chief Rabbi acknowledged that he was well aware of opposition from the non-Orthodox to his position on conversion to Judaism, and said his remarks were made deliberately.

"When I speak," he said, with a twinkle in his blue eyes, "I never refer to anyone in particular. But if there is someone who thinks that I'm talking about him, then I am indeed referring to him.

"I didn't go there to argue with them," added Shapiro, "but to tell them the truth."

The conflict between the Chief Rabbinate and other Orthodox bodies, on the one hand, and between the Conservative and Reform movements and other Jewish organizations (such as Hadassah), on the other, derives from efforts to amend the Law of Return and, in effect, to exclude non-Orthodox converts from Judaism.

"It is a moral problem," the Chief Rabbi asserted. "No rabbi, not even an Orthodox rabbi, has a right to bring indivíduals who are not wanted into the Jewish People. To this day, I have yet to hear an answer to that question."

In his view, non-Orthodox rabbis have a perfect right to bring whomever they pleased into their own synagogues and to pray with whomever they pleased. But, he added, it is not fair to say that they are bringing them into the Jewish People.

The irony is that this is such an "insignificant problem" in Israel that it is not worth creating a division: In Israel, he said, "only five or six people a year" fall into the category of non-Orthodox converts coming from abroad.

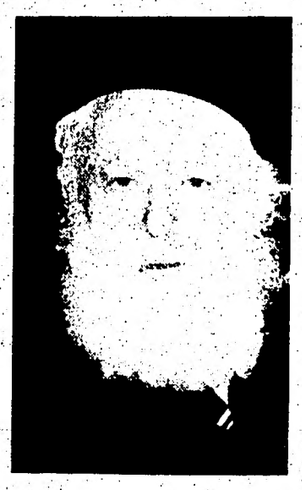
In such cases in Israel, he said, the Reform movement should give in and refer such converts to the Orthodox rabbinate. It is basically an American problem, he said, and he would not tell his colleagues abroad how to solve it.

Another issue which the Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox communities have had to face recently is that of the deferment of yeshiva students from army service.

Here, Shapiro is probably closer to the point of view of the secular community in his outlook than to that of the ultra-Orthodox rabbis: "Every Jew is obligated to defend the state," he observed, "just as every Jew has the obligation to study Torah."

The Chief Rabbi sees it as positive — and natural — that of seven local rabbinical court judges recently chosen, six had served in the Israel Defence Forces. This had not been the case in the past, he noted, mostly because those selected were too old to have served in the army.

But though he spoke of the need for army service, the Chief Rabbi still favored deferments: "Eventually," he said, "every Torah scholar should serve. Only those who are opposed to the state believe any differently."



Chief Shapiro

His tone was quite different, however, on the subject of the recent change in the "status quo" regarding the Sabbath — a change which came about after the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court for Local Affairs ruled that local councils could not legislate Sabbath observance.

According to the Chief Rabbi, the "great majority" of Israelis had no problem with the arrangement by which cinemas and cafes were closed in Jerusalem on Shabbat. The heads of both the Likud and Labor parties, as well as other leaders, all felt there was no problem. The difficulty, he said, resulted from "incitement from fringe, extremist elements."

No "honest secular person," he insisted, has said that he needs films on Shabbat: "I couldn't say the same thing about soccer games. People really want them on Shabbat."

For the religious section of the population, on the other hand, the public observance of the Sabbath is an essential part of the status quo — an agreement, which was reached between David Ben-Gurion and religious leaders and which defines Israel as a Jewish state.

Even before the state was established, it was agreed that the street should be Jewish. If cinemas are open on Shabbat, then tomorrow it will be shops and bus service. Then it won't be Shabbat any longer, he said.

There was, he said, some justification for the demonstrations against the screening of films on the Sabbath, despite the fact that the demonstrators engender desecration of the Sabbath by the police, who are called out to control them, and by the media, who often film them.

"If those who demonstrate believe that nothing will come of their demonstration, then they shouldn't demonstrate. If, on the other hand, the demonstrators believe that their action will result in the eventual greater observance of the Sabbath, then they may protest, even though they know the police and the media will turn out."

Personally, though he insists that every citizen has the right to demonstrate, the Chief Rabbi does not like demonstrations. He feels that more can be accomplished by quiet talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"In practical terms, a quiet solution is better, especially when 80 or 90% of the population believes that Shabbat should be respected. It is the responsibility of the nation's leaders to eliminate the problem."

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Living Halacha

By
RABBI MOSES J. BURAK

QUESTION: In some houses of worship, the congregation rises to recite the Shema'. In others the people remain seated. Who is right?

There are times when all of us stand to say the Shema'.

When the ark is opened, and the Torah is taken out to be read, all of us stand to say the Shema'. But, then, the whole congregation has been standing from the time that the ark was about to be opened.

Rabbi Burak

The same is true on Yom Kippur, at the close of the Ne'ilah service. There, too, the Shema' is chanted by the entire group, and everyone who is there stands at the time. But, that is due, once again, to the fact that the ark is open for the Ne'ilah, and all who can stand are standing for the entire hour or more that this service takes.

The difference in practice you enquire about holds true only at the regular services when the Shema' is recited. All who are in the synagogue happen to be seated, and then comes the Shema'. To rise or not to rise, that is the question. Modern congregations like to rise and sing out the words.

In the days of long ago, there was a sharp disagreement on this question. It goes back all the way to Beth Shammai. You see, the Torah tells us: "And thou shalt speak of them . . . when thou liest down and when thou risest up." How are we to understand these words? Is this an order to stand up or to lie down when reciting the Shema'?

In Tractate Berachos, 10B, we are told that there are two ways of interpreting these words. It is possible to see them as an instruction on the posture of this prayer. There are times when it is obligatory to stand up to recite the Shema'. There are other times when one should lie down to recite it. Even the most modern of synagogues hasn't quite managed to adopt this second suggestion.

As far as the Beth Shammai are concerned, the Shema', at the morning service, is to be recited while standing. That's the way they interpreted the words "and when thou risest up." For the Beth Hillel, however, the verse spells out the times when this prayer should be said: once in the morning, and once at night.

The Beth Hillel taught that you recite the Shema' in the posture you're in at the time. If you are seated, remain seated. If you are standing at the time, remain standing. So, if you ever studied Talmud, you must be aware that it is a general rule that one follows the Beth Hillel, rather than their doughty opponents the Beth Shammai.

In this instance, the view of the Beth Hillel has been codified as the law, in O.H. Chapter 63:2. A little barb is added in the ruling, namely, that if one decides to be stricter than necessary, and to rise to recite the Shema', one is called an "avaryan." That's not a compliment. The word avaryan means a transgressor.

The 'Aruch ha-Shulchan on this chapter of the Code explains why this barb is merited.

Key Refuseniks released before summit

Soviet acts called window dressing

By
BELINDA SILBERMAN

TORONTO —

The release of former Refusenik Ida Nudel was part of a Soviet campaign to let out the "symbols" of the Refusenik movement in time for the Reagan-Gorbachev summit, says the co-chairman of the Ontario Legislature Committee for Soviet Jewry.

It's "window dressing," since there are still hundreds of thousands of others who would like to leave, but can't, Donald Cousens said.

The Markham MPP was a keynote speaker at a recent International Human Rights Day program co-sponsored by the World Jewry Committee of the National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, and the Committee for Soviet Jewry of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region.

More than 100 people attended the program at Council House at 4700 Bathurst St.

During the event a campaign was renewed to help free the Royak family from the Soviet Union.

Vyacheslav Royak, 41, and his 40-year-old wife Rianna have been Refuseniks since 1976. They live with their daughters Ana, 13, Leah, 7, and Ilana, 2, in Bendery, in the western Soviet province of Moldavia.

Cousens said the Soviets have been releasing key Refuseniks like Nudel because it makes them appear to be "good guys."

But they're not and their efforts don't even begin to address the problem of human rights in the Soviet Union, said Cousens, citing the many others like the Royaks who haven't been released.

Cousens told the crowd their efforts can help change the situation in the Soviet Union. "I believe that what we have to do is have a real sense of personal inspiration," he said.

"We have to allow ourselves to become free of the shackles of those who would say, 'Oh lookit, you can't do that because it has never been done before.'

"If we're going to succeed in human rights, we must understand that there can be almost no rules — I say 'almost' because we've got to be within the law," Cousens said.

"But we've got to somehow start the fire burning in other people so they become impassioned, so they become motivated — so they become part of the battle for human rights and freedoms."

The world has changed into a place where not only institutions but individuals can influence change and where there are opportunities for "inspiration from the grassroots," he added.

The Royak family (from left) Vyacheslav, Leah, Ana, Rianna and baby Ilana.

Guest speaker Bill Attewell, chairman of the Canadian Parliamentary Group for Soviet Jewry, also spoke about the importance of working to free Soviet Refuseniks.

"It's not just one thing that does it — it's not one person or one organization," said the Don Valley East MP.

"It's just that collective work by all of us, as modest as it may be, that finally makes Gorbachev or some other official say, 'All right, let's ease up a bit.'"

Attewell said his group will continue working until they have resolved a number of issues including anti-semitism in the Soviet Union.

"We do not intend to let up until we see tangible success not only on exit visas; but on the ability for Jews and other people to practice their faith openly," he said.

At the end of the program, a long distance telephone call was placed to the Royak family in the Soviet Union.

Almost 40 people packed a Council House office to hear the call made by Jeanette Goldman, immediate past chairman of the CJC Ontario Region's Committee for Soviet Jewry.

Goldman, who is also NCJW's national Soviet Jewry chairman, reached Rianna who she spoke to for almost 30 minutes.

Some people cried and others wiped their eyes as they heard the desperation in Rianna's voice, amplified on a telephone microphone.

The Soviet French teacher told Goldman in Russian that her husband Vyacheslav, a severe diabetic, planned to hold a one-man public demonstration in front of a government building in Bendery on International Human Rights Day.

He also planned to go on a hunger strike even though he had been warned by Soviet authorities not to hold these protests, she said.

In the family's latest rejection, Vyacheslav's former employer told Soviet authorities that the mathematician and computer programmer would be a security risk if he were released.

As a result, Vyacheslav, who hasn't worked for that employer in 12 years and only held a low level position at the time, was told he wouldn't be able to leave until 1997.

"He doesn't know secrets now and he didn't know secrets then," Goldman stated.

The Royaks were previously told their application would not be processed until Vyacheslav received written permission from his stepmother to apply as well as her statement that she had no financial claims on his family.

Vyacheslav has had no contact with his stepmother, who lives in Irkutsk, Siberia, since his father's death many years ago. His stepmother has several natural children of her own from a previous marriage and is well cared for financially.

The Royaks, the only active Refuseniks left in their small community, feel a "terrible isolation," Goldman said.

"Many of their friends in town are afraid to call them because they have been portrayed by the authorities as agitators and anti-social elements."

Telegrams will be sent by the NCJW and CJC groups to Canadian and Soviet officials asking them to help free the family.

For more information on the Royak campaign, call Ben Prossin at 635-2883.

No show at Sunday meet

WASHINGTON —

It was a meeting on Freedom Sunday that didn't happen.

Two recently released women Refuseniks, members of Jewish Women Against Refusal, were to have had their first face-to-face meeting in North America with members of the International Council of Jewish Women, a 1-million strong organization in 80 countries which last May granted the Soviet group associate status.

Toronto activist Jeanette Goldman, who is chairman of ICJW's Soviet Jewry committee, said that several members of her committee were to meet with Irina Brailovsky and Oxana Kholmiansky. Due to simple logistics problems of getting to and from in downtown Washington that day with more than 200,000 people in the downtown core for the rally, they were unable to make it.

The meeting was cancelled as was the scheduled press conference to draw attention to the problems for women of living in the Soviet Union.

Contact with the women of JEWAR, who are either the wives, daughters or mothers of Refuseniks, has been established between ICJF through its Paris-based president, Stella Rozan.

Goldman said that since May, "we have been in close contact by mail and telephone with many of our sisters in the USSR and have invited them to participate at our international meetings in Europe and North America. We await the day that they can join us freely in person, not only in spirit." — **W.R.**

Activist attacks complacency in wake of "Gorbachev fever"

By
WENDY ROSEN

WASHINGTON —

Today we have a unique opportunity to not only be part of history but to make history, a Montreal human rights activist said.

McGill law professor Irwin Cotler told about 500 Canadians at a pep rally here preceding the Freedom Sunday (Dec. 6) march to the Capitol that "what happens to Soviet Jews is determined not only by what goes on in the Soviet Union but by what we do here in the West today and hereafter."

He cautioned that though the West is on the threshold of making history, "we run risk perhaps of being bystanders to it."

He attributes this to complacency which might set in because people are struck by "Gorbachev fever" — a feeling that glasnost (openness) and perestroika (restructure) have already arrived and that there is already a revolution in human rights in the Soviet Union.

"The right to emigrate must be seen as the most fundamental of all rights as a precondition for human liberty itself; that family reunification ... in Gorbachev's own words, is indispensible to a comprehensible international system of peace and security."

Cotler then read a message from Naum Meiman and Ben Charny, two cancer patients who are seeking medical treatment in the West.

It read: "Greetings to all Canadian friends. We know well of your efforts on behalf of us and our brothers and sisters yet in bondage. We thank you for your devotion and encourage you to continue because you are making an impact.

"Even though we ourselves are ill and may not have the time that it might take to reach freedom, we know for sure that ultimately we shall win. Your devotion assures that the principle of freedom of emigration will succeed.

"We will never give up. Am Yisrael Chai (People of Israel Live.)"

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433 originally reported as "mysteriously" lost

Only eight UN war crimes files now missing

NEW YORK (JTA) —

All but eight of the 433 files reported missing from the United Nations war crimes archives have been located and accounted for, according to a report submitted to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and released here last week.

The report was prepared by Richard Foran, UN assistant secretary-general for general services. He headed an investigation ordered by the secretary-general after it was alleged that 433 of the 8,100 files had "mysteriously vanished." (CJN Dec. 17).

The allegation appeared in a New York Post article by Uri Dan, an Israeli, who was the first journalist given access to the files after they were opened to public inspection by Perez de Cuellar on Nov. 23.

According to the UN report, the missing files were in reality misplaced, and then found in one of the two groups of files within the archives.

The report explained that the files are separated into two groups and within each group arranged by the member government of the former Allied War Crimes Commission making the charge against the alleged criminal and the charge number.

The first group contains the files of war criminals, suspected war criminals and witnesses to war crimes. The second group contains cases that were either adjourned, withdrawn or that pertain to war criminals who could not be identified. "The search of the first group of files revealed that 465 files could not be accounted for in that group," the report stated. "A record of these files was established and then verified against the files of the second group. This verification established that 441 out of the 465 files that could not initially be accounted for were in fact filed in the second group."

Continuing, the report stated: "This left 24 files which could not be located either in the first group or the second group."

After further research, the report claimed, it was established that five files were returned to the submitting government for additional information, but never returned; seven had been given dual numbers as a result of mistaking the nationality of the accused; three charge numbers were never used; and one was withdrawn because it was "already listed." Therefore, the report concluded: "The actual whereabouts of eight files remains undetermined. The existence of these files and a listing of names included in each file has been verified from the registers. In some cases, charges against the same individuals exist in other files.

"Since both the serial and the charge number of these eight files are known, an effort is underway to trace them."

Wallenberg chair at Bar-Ilan

Cotler is honoree at inaugural

MONTREAL —

McGill law professor Irwin Cotler will be the guest of honor at a ceremony inaugurating the Raoul Wallenberg Chair in Human Rights at the Yaacov Herzog Faculty of Law at Bar-Ilan University.

Cotler, who has been named the first Raoul Wallenberg Visiting Professor in Human Rights, will inaugurate the chair with a lecture Dec. 24 in the Senate Hall of the university. He will be joined on the dais by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who will deliver the opening lecture; university chancellor Prof. Emanuel Rackman; and Supreme Court Justice Aaron Barak. Other dignitaries from legal, academic, political and diplomatic circles are attending.

Following the lecture, Cotler will be honored at a dinner, where Judge Hadassah Ben-Ito will be guest speaker.

Funds for the creation of the Wallenberg chair were raised last year at a dinner in Montreal for Cotler, sponsored by the Canadian Friends of Bar-Ilan University.

Cotler is scheduled to deliver three lectures in his capacity as the Wallenberg Visiting Professor. The first, inaugurating the chair, is entitled International Human Rights and the Jewish Conscience; the second is Defending Political Prisoners — Scharansky and Nudel as Case Studies; and the third, The Holocaust and Human Rights — The Juridical Legacy.

The series is to be known as the Raoul Wallenberg Lectures in Human Rights, and will be delivered annually as part of the Raoul Wallenberg Chair.

This is the latest honor for Cotler. Last month, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Toronto's York University, where he also delivered the convocation address.

He was cited by the university for his "enormous contribution to human rights and world peace" and for having "more than any other Canadian of his generation...advanced the cause of human rights in the world today."

Mention was made of his work to free imprisoned Refusenik Natan Scharansky and his service as legal counsel to other Soviet political prisoners, as well as jailed black South African leader Nelson Mandela.

In his convocation address, Cotler spoke about the sense of apathy or powerlessness among people in getting involved in the struggle for human rights. "How do we confront a world with so much injustice on the one hand, and yet so few who seem to care on the other?" he asked.

He continued: "And if we are to confront injustice, where do we begin? On behalf of what cause? On behalf of which victim? How does one rank human suffering?"

The answer, according to Cotler, is that "the problem is not which cause shall be served, but are we serving the cause of human rights at all; not which victim shall be helped, but are we indifferent to the cause of the victim; not whether a tribal claim is being asserted on behalf of blacks, or native people, or Jews, or women, or whoever the tribal claimant may be, but why must the tribal claimant stand alone?"

Congress Ottawa office to analyze policy issues

OTTAWA —

Canadian Jewish Congress has opened an office in Ottawa. Its director, Eric Vernon, will provide research and analysis of legislative and social policy issues of concern to the Canadian Jewish community.

"The office will assist Congress by enhancing its perspective on major government policies and proposals and in developing informed positions on behalf of the Jewish community of Canada," said CJC president Dorothy Reitman.

Several times a year, the Ottawa office and the CJC communications department will publish the Ottawa Digest, an analysis of selected government policies and CJC initiatives, as a resource for the Jewish community and other ethno-cultural groups.

Vernon, a native of Toronto, has an academic background in history, including a master's degree from the University of Waterloo. After teaching in universities in Canada and the United States, he moved to Ottawa where he launched a career in research consulting.

The CJC office is located in the Ottawa Jewish Community Centre.

Provides a link with minorities

The office also serves as a liaison for the Jewish community with legislators and civil servants, as well as non-governmental organizations based in the capital, particularly those concerned with human rights and social issues. The latter includes the Canadian Ethnocultural Council, which CJC says provides the Jewish community a link with other minority groups.

Vernon's research and analysis assists CJC in the formulation of its positions on issues. For example, he has assisted the CJC Law and Social Action Committee in the preparation of briefs.

Copies of the first issue of the Ottawa Digest, which appeared in the summer, were sent to all members of the House of Commons and Senate.

Forward editor a top journalist

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

WASHINGTON —

Simon Weber, editor emeritus of The Forward who died at age 77 in New York December 1, is mourned by close associates of the world-famous Yiddish language newspaper as "a consummate journalist who always was sensitive to the readers he served."

In an obituary notice in The New York Times, officers and members of The Forward Association Inc. said Weber's "particular pride was the many anniversary issues of The Forward which he edited, the last one only this last May when The Forward celebrated its 90th anniversary."

The notice, signed by Joseph Miatek, president of The Forward Association, Harold Ostroff, its general manager, and Mordecai Shtrigler, its present editor, said "his loss is an irreplaceable one."

Weber, who was born in Poland and came to America as a teenager, joined The Forward in 1939. He worked his way from a reporter to news editor, managing editor and chief editor, retiring last July after 48 years of service.

The Name Game

There's a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr. Catzman reports on his research in The CJN. If you have any information relating to the origin and meaning of your surname, please pass it along to Fred M. Catzman, c/o The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

* * *

BINKOWICZ

Risa Binkovich of Laval, Que., has written me about the origin of her surname. Her father who survived the Holocaust came from a family rooted in PIESK, Poland, about 80 kilometres west of GRODNO. This could refer to several places in northern Poland — BIALA PISKA, PISZ, PIASKI or PIECKI. To confuse matters more, there are two PIECKIs, one in OLSZTYN and the other in the neighboring SUWAL.

The only hamlet which I could find in the area of PIECKI (OLSZTYNSKIE) is BIENKOWO. There is a town of BEINKOWICZ in southern Poland, which is very remote.

Name change backers to push for Goldmann

TEL AVIV (JPFS) —

The Tel Aviv municipality's names committee has rejected a proposal to name a street after Nahum Goldmann, late president of the World Zionist Organization and World Jewish Congress, but advocates of the name-change plan hope to force another vote.

Yeshayahu Avrech, a journalist for the Hebrew-language daily Davar and a member of the committee, has written to committee chairman Dov Ben-Meir, asking to raise the matter again.

"I opposed Goldmann's policies, but one cannot ignore what he did for Israel and the Jewish people. He definitely deserves a street in Tel Aviv," Avrech said.

Arye Dulzin, outgoing WZO and Jewish Agency chairman, condemned the committee's rejection of Goldmann as "malicious."

"It was a bad decision. I think he should be honored with a street just as many other Jewish and Zionist leaders are," he said, adding, however, that because it was a municipal issue he would not intervene.

In his long career in Jewish and Zionist affairs, Goldmann, who died five years ago and actually lived in Israel for only a short time, often managed to antagonize the mainstream Israeli political leadership.

In rejecting the street proposal, someone on the names committee reportedly argued that Goldmann had worked with the Americans against the establishment of Israel.

The committee member was referring to Goldmann's efforts in 1948 to get British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin and the U.S. state department to urge Moshe Sharett and Abba Hillel Silver to pressure Ben-Gurion to delay the proclamation of the state from May until October.

But it was also Goldmann who used his influence to gain international support for the UN partition plan, and it was he who was credited with paving the way for the German reparations agreement.

These events were perhaps obscured by his independent peace initiatives and, in the wake of the Lebanon war, his call for mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO.

There is no Goldmann Street in any town in Israel. The most important memorial to him is Tel Aviv's Beth Hatefutsoth, the Diaspora Museum, which he helped establish and which bears his name.

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No "instant gratification" for participants

Leaders differ on outcome of anti-Soviet rally

NEW YORK (JTA) — Leaders of Soviet Jewry groups across the board are less than pleased with the outcome of last week's summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, because of an apparent lack of progress in the area of human rights.

But there is a divergence of opinion on what may come in the future. Most of those interviewed believe that, like it or not, Gorbachev came away from Washington with the realization that he will have to deal with the issues of human rights and Soviet Jewish emigration, because Americans will simply not let him forget it.

These people believe that time will tell what decisions Gorbachev may have privately made last week.

Rabbi Avi Weiss, national chairman of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and one of the most confrontational in the spectrum of Soviet Jewry activists, believes that "human rights suffered at the summit."

The issue, he said, "was dealt with in a perfunctory, quick manner."

Weiss focused on the business meeting between Gorbachev and business leaders following the summit, which "sent the wrong message to Moscow. It tells the Soviets that America is not prepared to back up its rhetoric on human rights with action.

"Tragically, the Jewish community shares the blame," he said. "We can't expect the President to use American trade muscle with the Soviets if we don't insist that he do so."

David Harris, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, who served as national coordinator of the massive Freedom Sunday rally on Dec. 6, called the summit "discouraging for people who expected instant gratification." But now the Soviets "have to weigh their next step in this area very carefully with respect to Soviet Jewry and how they proceed.

"If they are going to remain recalcitrant, hostile and disingenuous in their public statements, as Gorbachev was, it's going to create a serious cloud over the future direction of Soviet-American relations," he said.

"The challenge for U.S. policymakers is to adhere to the hitherto oft-stated policy of balanced progress in the four substantive areas of bilateral relations.

"Until now, the United States has insisted on a balanced progress in the areas of arms control, regional issues, human rights and bilateral issues," Harris explained. "The Soviet Union, on the other hand, has sought to detach and emphasize arms control and bilateral issues to the exclusion of human rights, with little more than lip service to human rights and regional conflicts," he said.

Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jews, concludes that "the summit was a disappointment. If there are going to be any changes affecting Soviet Jews, they will have to happen . . . as we go into an election year and a follow-up summit in Moscow," he said.

Goodman pointed out that the Dec. 6 rally "helped to create a sense of good will in Washington among our political leaders." He said Gorbachev "will have to reconcile himself to that reality if he wants a normal relationship with our country."

Tel Aviv anthropologist finds:

All is not well with yordim

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — Israeli immigrants in the United States are living in a kind of twilight zone, unable to be part of the American Jewish community, estranged from their own countrymen and rapidly heading towards oblivion as an identifiable ethnic group.

This is the view of a Tel Aviv University anthropologist who recently spent two years studying yordim (emigrants from Israel) in New York and admitted that he too narrowly escaped being seduced by the "good life."

"I originally went for a year's sabbatical leave. Then I took another year's leave of absence to continue my research," said Prof. Moshe Shokeid in an interview with the university's quarterly magazine.

"I was offered a visiting lectureship at one of New York's leading universities. But I knew what would happen. The third year would turn into the fourth and the fourth into the fifth. Then I'd start asking myself how I ever got along on an Israeli salary. It would get harder and harder to go back. I decided to turn down the job."

Shokeid's book about his experiences in New York — soon to be published by Cornell University Press — pulls no punches in its description of life among Israeli expatriates in New York.

Despite their economic wellbeing they are a lonely, guilt-racked community, ill at ease and homesick, he says.

There are four major reasons for the emigration of Israelis to the United States: economic, professional, a desire to travel and the wish to join relatives already there.

But, said the professor, "yordim keep a very low profile. They do not join Jewish organizations and have little social contact with American Jews. Nor do they mix much with non-Jews. In fact, they have few social ties of any kind, even with other Israelis. Their behavior is not unlike that of a stigmatized group.

"They feel ostracized by others and are not comfortable with themselves. Their feelings of guilt at having left Israel are so intense that the only way they seem able to confront their move to America is to deny it. They explain their presence in America as somehow accidental and plan for an eventual return to Israel."

Peres seeking closer relations with Brazil

BRASILIA (JPFS) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the first Israeli foreign minister to visit Brazil in over 20 years, last week called on Israel and Brazil to open a "new page" in the relations between the two countries.

Peres arrived in the capital, Brasilia, from New York and met with Brazilian President Jose Sarnai and Foreign Minister Costa Abbrev Sodre.

At a luncheon hosted by Sodre, the Brazilian foreign minister expressed his support for an international conference based on UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and for closer relations between Israel and Brazil.

Brazil has always supported UN calls for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories, and a senior government official described current bilateral relations as "at best, correct."

Bilateral trade runs at a mere $30 million annually and a 1959 cultural agreement is virtually "dormant."

Peres also said that Israel does not object to Brazil's traditionally close ties with Arab countries, which might also prove beneficial to Israel.

Political observers in Brasilia say Peres's visit to Brazil was made possible by the positions he has taken within Israel's Labor party in favor of dialogue with the Arabs.

It also coincides with Brazil's current membership of the UN Security Council and comes at a crucial time for Israel's maritime transport company, Zim, which is negotiating for the purchase of 10 Brazilian container ships, in a deal which could be worth around $500 million.

Peres met with top Brazilian officials before flying on to the Uruguayan capital of Montevideo.

Israeli inflation sparks concern

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israeli officials are concerned about the 1.6% rise in the cost-of-living index in November, which the Central Bureau of Statisitcs announced last week.

The rise is six-tenths of a percent higher than forecast and brings the inflation rate for the first 11 months of the year to 14.7%. The rate for all of 1987 is expected to hit 16% when the December figures are released on Jan. 15.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim noted that while the inflation rate is still the lowest in recent years, another year of belt-tightening and budget cuts is needed to bring it down to a single digit, which is considered "normal" in other countries.

Petach Tikvah to get first kids' hospital

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — Israel's first children's hospital, the only one in the region between Bangkok, Athens and South Africa, is due to open in Petah Tikva in 1991.

It will provide specialized treatment not only for Israeli youngsters, but also for those from neighboring Arab countries and more distant lands.

A signing ceremony, held last week in the Chagall Hall of the Knesset in Jerusalem, was attended by some 300 dignitaries from Israel and abroad.

Building is to begin next spring.

Called the Children's Medical Centre of Israel, it will cost an estimated $50 million and provide highly sophisticated, inter-disciplinary care for children through the age of 18.

The idea was initiated by Irving Schneider of New York, who will personally provide a substantial proportion of the money and who has committed himself to help raise the rest.

The 224-bed hospital, to be built on the grounds of Beilinson Hospital, will be run by the Clalit health fund. Schneider told reporters he believes that Israeli pediatricians who have emigrated will be attracted back home to work and conduct research at the facility.

He intends to establish an international endowment fund to promote research and support medical fellowships once the hospital starts operating.

The children's hospital will contain in-patient and out-patient units and departments of pediatric medicine, surgery, intensive care and day care. Every specialty, from pediatric psychiatry to AIDS and neo-natal problems, will be offered.

There will be boarding facilities to enable parents to provide emotional and moral support to their children at all times. The design of the centre will allow the youngsters to amuse, feed and groom themselves, thus maintaining their independence and self-esteem.

The centre has been designed by an architect from the U.S., where there are now 50 such specialized children's hospitals.

Klarsfeld demands "liar-president" resign his post

VIENNA (JTA) — Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld last week affixed a poster to the front door of Kurt Waldheim's office demanding that the Austrian president resign.

The poster displayed a photograph of Waldheim in his World War II German army uniform alongside one of Austrian Jews being forced to scrub the pavements after Austria became part of the Third Reich by the 1938 Anschluss.

The poster read: "No more liar-president with a war criminal file. Waldheim must resign."

It was removed from the door by a policeman.

A plainclothes officer took Klarsfeld's name, examined her passport and asked her to leave the premises. There was no further police action.

Klarsfeld told reporters that she acted to draw attention to the fact that the United Nations war crimes archives contains a file on Waldheim, a former UN secretary general who concealed his wartime activities for 40 years. She said she also wanted to remind people that next year is the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss.

The Jewish Quiz

QUESTIONS:

(1) Name the prophet that was forbidden to enter the Temple because of his preachings.

(2) Who built the present-day wall around Jerusalem?

(3) Who was considered to be the leading sage during the siege of the Second Temple and the years following the destruction of the Temple?

Edmond Y. Lipsitz

ANSWERS:

(1) Jeremiah (36:5).

(2) Suleiman the Magnificent (1520-1566).

(3) Yohanan ben Zakkai.

* * *

These questions and answers came from the book 6400 Questions About Judaism and the Jewish People by Edmond Y. Lipsitz, published by JESL Educational Products, Downsview.

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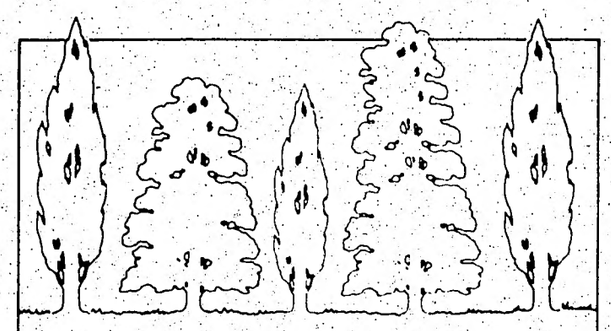

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

DIARY ...of a People

By DAVID BIRKAN

Tevet 8 (Dec. 29 this year) marks the completion of the Septuagint, the 3rd century BCE translation of the Bible into Greek. Subsequent developments led the early rabbis to declare it a fast day.

Ptolemy Philadelphus (288-247 BCE) asked Eliezer the high priest of the Temple to send 72 scholars from Jerusalem to Alexandria to translate the Bible for his royal library. At the same time, the flourishing Jewish population of the Egyptian city, hellenized to an unprecedented degree, needed a Greek version of the Pentateuch for the most basic Torah readings in their synagogue.

The tragedy of assimilation undermined the wondrous account of the Septuagint's (septuaginta in Latin means 70) translation: According to legend, each of the scholars working in his own room produced an identical translation and they all finished at the same time.

Another account says each of the Five Books of Moses was translated by a different scholar. A rabbinic ruling permitted its liturgical use in the synagogue.

Ruling allows use

The Prophets and the Writings were added over the next two centuries. The final order differed from the Hebrew Bible's. The Septuagint contained apocryphal books — legendary and apocalyptic works popular at the time — not included in the Bible. Numerous deviations from the Bible and each other have been found in the three earliest versions: the Vaticanus, Sinaiticus, and Alexandrinus codices.

The translation, in the koine dialect of the masses, yielded unexpected and, for the Jews, bitter fruit. Those who hoped it would stimulate a return to Hebrew sources by the Jews of Alexandria, Asia Minor and other parts of the Mediterranean were soon disappointed. Proselytizers — at first gratified at having a Greek representation of Judaism to give educated Gentiles scoffing at their own panoply of Greek and Roman gods — were horrified by its torrential spread at the hands of Paul and other missionaries of Christianity. Without a Greek Bible, Christianity might not have spread at all. As historian Louis Finkelstein puts it: "The earliest Christian apostles would have had much less success in converting Gentiles to Christianity without an authoritative Greek text of the Jewish Scripture with which to support their claim that Jesus of Nazareth . . . was the messiah whose coming had been predicted by the Hebrew prophets."

Essential for Philo

It was indispensible to Greco-Jewish philosopher Philo, whose fusion of Greek and Jewish thought was adopted in significant part by early Christianity.

The Septuagint spawned secondary versions for early Christian churches in Europe and the Near East, such as the Coptic, Ethiopic, Armenian, Slavonic, and Gothic. It was adopted as a prime text by the Byzantine church after its split from Rome. It played a vital part in the formation of Christian beliefs and institutions.

The pre-Christian hellenistic philosophies and values that the Septuagint aimed at eclipsing were in fact embodied in and preserved by it. They shaped the theology of the church fathers and paved the way for neo-Platonism and medieval Christian, Jewish, and Arab scholasticism.

The destruction of the Temple in 70 CE was seen by some Jewish moralists as the culmination of the long process of submitting Judaism to pagan values. To them, the insertion of Roman effigies in the sacred precints was presaged when the sacred words of the Scriptures were inserted into the words of the idolaters. The day of the Septuagint's completion was likened to that on which the golden calf of the Exodus was made.

In the second century CE, three more Greek translations for Jews were made of the Bible — those of Aquila, Symmachus, and Theodotian. They too were adopted by the church, as footnotes to the Septuagint.

An estimated 3 million Jews lived outside the Holy Land in the first century CE. What alternate history they could have formed for the civilized world without the intervention of a small sect and the Greek scriptures that it adopted remains a source of endless speculation.

Says retaliation could mean war

Syria confirms raid involvement

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Syria appears to have confirmed its involvement in a recent attack by a glider-borne terrorist and is warning Israel that retaliation against targets in Syria would mean war.

The attack, on the night of Nov. 25, killed six Israel Defence Force soldiers and wounded seven at an upper Galilee military base.

The Arab affairs correspondent of the Israeli daily Haaretz reported that Syrian defence minister Mustafa Tlas boasted that Syria provides unlimited assistance to "the Palestinian struggle against the Zionist occupation forces."

Speaking to the graduating class at an air force academy, Tlas referred to "the heroic act of the (glider) pilot from Aleppo, Halad Muhammed Akar, who participated in an action in the north of Palestine and killed or wounded 37 Zionist soldiers and officers," Haaretz reported.

Tlas said that before leaving on his mission, Akar wrote to President Hafez Assad of Syria that the only way to liberate the homeland is a confrontation with the "Zionist enemy."

Davar's Arab affairs correspondent reported that Syrian propaganda organs have warned that if Israel hits Syrian targets or terrorist bases in Syria in retaliation for the glider attack, war is likely to break out between Syria and Israel. The paper quoted the official Syrian newspaper Al-Baath as stating that "Israel must know that any move to attack Syria will mean war . . . and no one will be spared."

The Dubai newspaper Al-Biyan published an interview with the Palestine Liberation Organization's deputy chief, Abu Iyyad, who claimed that Israel is preparing attacks against a base in Syria of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, PLO headquarters in the Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon and a PLO base in South Yemen.

According to Abu Iyyad, the Israeli attack had to be postponed because of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in Washington.

Lebanese radio stations and sources in Beirut reported that the IDF and its allied South Lebanon Army have armored forces poised in the southern Lebanon security zone to attack targets in sothern Lebanon. The sources said the IDF has concentrated three battalions in the Marjayoun area and trucks carrying Merkava and M-48 tanks were seen in the Jezzine area.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Rabin warned Arab rulers that they and their nations face terrible retribution if they dare to attack Israel with gas.

Ballistic missiles equipped with chemical warheads could hit Israel, but, Rabin indicated, intelligence is expected to provide a sufficient warning to allow for countermeasures.

Answering pupils' questions at a Tel Aviv school here, he said that Iraq, Syria and a third Arab country are capable of launching gas attacks. He declined to name the third country.

"Let every Arab state know that a deviation from the Geneva Convention banning the use of chemical warfare will bring upon it a terrible calamity and a seven-fold blow," he declared.

An Arab leader who contemplates a gas attack had better know that "the attack he and his nation will suffer will be far more severe than he can imagine," the minister continued.

Iraq has used gas against Iranian troops, and Syria is reportedly developing a chemical warhead for its missiles.

Israel is researching development of an anti-tactical ballistic missile. The project, connected with the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative, may lead to production of a missile capable of intercepting enemy missiles fired from a distance of 500 to 1,000 kilometres.

In the meantime, the Israel Defence Forces have prepared themselves to deal with gas attacks, and the civilian population is "basically prepared" for defence against chemicals.

Gas masks are available for the entire population, he said, and civil defence units have been trained for such an eventuality.

Catholics in Argentina apologize to BB Intl.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — An organization of Catholic lay leaders in Argentina has condemned recent anti-semitic remarks made by a Catholic priest in their country and has offered profound apologies in a letter to Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai B'rith.

The letter, released here recently, was written by Estiban de Navares, president, and Emilio Albistur, secretary of the National Commission on Justice and Peace, a group composed of lay leaders of Argentina's Conference of Bishops. It expressed what the Vatican representative in Buenos Aires refused to say publicly after a meeting with Reich there.

"On behalf of the Catholic community, we humbly ask you to forgive us for the offence you have been given," the Catholic leaders wrote. They were referring to a homily delivered by Father Manuel Beltran in Cordoba Oct. 4 during a mass honoring "victims of subversion." It was attended mainly by right-wing military officers opposed to the government of President Raul Alfonsin.

Beltran denounced "bad" Jews who "surround" the government, in contrast to "good" Jews who keep out of public affairs. He also recommended the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, a notoriously anti-semitic tract, as food for thought.

When Reich raised the issue at a meeting with the papal nuncio in Buenos Aires, Msgr. Ubaldo Calabresi told him he had informed Beltran that he was wrong, but would make no public statement of disapproval because the incident was isolated. The letter from Navares and Albistur spoke of the 10,000 posters B'nai B'rith members had placed around the Argentine capital addressed to "our Catholic brothers," which condemned anti-semitism.

They said they were writing for two purposes: to express their appreciation for Reich's visit to Argentina and for reminding Catholics, by way of the posters, of their obligation "to love our elder brothers in the faith and therefore, as Vatican Council II says, deplore hate, persecution and expressions of anti-semitism of any time or person against Jews."

WZO ordered to slash costs by new chief

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Simcha Dinitz has ordered tough cost-cutting measures after being elected chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive.

Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset and former ambassador to the United States, ordered the closure of his Tel Aviv office and instructed the heads of all WZO departments to do the same and work the full week in Jerusalem.

In addition, Dinitz froze short- and long-term missions abroad scheduled for the next few weeks, pending review. All contracts with outside companies will be reviewed and all intended new appointments to positions in the WZO will be held up, subject to review.

Dinitz was elected to the post Dec. 7 by the 31st World Zionist Congress. In his victory speech, the former envoy pledged to reduce waste and duplication in the WZO and Jewish Agency departments he will be administering.

Both organizations have come under fire from Jewish leaders in the Diaspora, and from certain quarters in Israel, who maintain that the twin bodies duplicate each other's work and that performed by various ministries inside the Israeli government.

President Chaim Herzog, in an opening speech at the Zionist congress, called on the WZO to undergo a radical "soul-searching."

Israeli arms go to W. Germany

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israel has signed an agreement with West Germany to supply its army, the Bundeswehr, with $190 million worth of artillery ammunition, Haaretz reported from Bonn last week.

In Bonn, the defence ministry simultaneously confirmed that the deal was signed for West Germany by Heinz Glaser, president of the Koblenz-based Federal Office for Military Procurement, and for Israel by Michael Shor, general manager of Israel Military Industries.

According to the Haaretz report, Israel Military Industries will supply the West Germans with the components of the ammunition. German experts are already here to examine samples.

Haaretz quoted German sources as saying the determining factor to buy the ammunition in Israel was quality and price. Other reports said the ammunition is being tested by Bundeswehr officers on an Israel Defence Force range in the Negev.

The West German defence ministry issued a statement in Bonn noting that the Bundeswehr has been purchasing Israeli ammunition for many years and that the recent agreement was part of a well-established pattern. A similar agreement between the two countries was reached two years ago.

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Tevet 4, 5748 - Vayigash
Candlelighting: Montreal 3:56; Toronto 4:25

Affiliation costly

Arthur Magida, writing in the Baltimore Jewish Times, has drawn attention to a problem affecting Jewish communities on this continent — the high cost of affiliation.

With the use of various charts and statistical analyses he shows that the extent of Jewish commitment is a function not only of values but of the pocketbook as well.

Comparing the cost of membership in Jewish organizations with comparable non-Jewish ones (B'nai B'rith versus the Knights of Columbus), he shows that, with rare exceptions, Jewish affiliation can cost from 20% to 80% more.

Similar disparities are recorded in the costs of kosher and non-Jewish foods. In certain kosher commodities, moreover, costs are 100% higher.

When one adds to these statistics the costs of synagogue membership, day school or afternoon Hebrew school education, UJA donations, disbursements for holidays such as Passover and Succoth, sisterhood and brotherhood fees, summer camps and trips to Israel, the expenses involved in identifying Jewishly are — considerable.

"If a Martian landed and wanted to choose a religion on the basis of cost effectiveness, I'm not sure he would choose Judaism," says Egon Mayer, a sociologist from Brooklyn College. "No other religion has the overhead of a country (i.e. Israel) to support."

What does not emerge clearly from the study in question is whether the high costs necessarily act as a deterrent to Jewish identification and commitment.

Gerald Bubis, a Los Angeles-based specialist on Jewish society, claims that Jewish families are definitely being disenfranchised from full participation in Jewish life because of high costs. Others suggest that people are ready to pay very high costs for things that matter to them. Visceral commitment to Judaism takes precedence over the economics of Judaism, said another commentator.

The survey of the high cost of living Jewishly was based on the American experience, but it is certainly relevant to Canadian Jews as well.

Kudos to Steinsalz

Because so much of the news from Israel concerns political, military, economic and social developments, other important happenings tend to be eclipsed.

We want to rectify this situation by extending our congratulations to Jerusalem's Rabbi Adin Steinsalz who has just issued the first volume of his commentary on the Talmud Yerushalmi.

Observers say that the Steinsalz's contribution to Jewish learning is of the same magnitude as that of Rashi, the famous French-Jewish exegete whose comments on the Torah and on the Babylonian Talmud have been the mainstay of Jewish scholarship for 800 years.

Since the mid-60s Rabbi Steinsalz has published 20 volumes of his Talmud Hamevuar, a unique edition of the classic Babylonian Talmud in which the Gemara is vocalized (vowels added) and is accompanied by a critical Hebrew apparatus.

There the author supplies explanatory notes on the meaning of the Gemara as well as explanations of difficult foreign words, concepts and other esoterica found in the Babylonian Talmud.

Despite the fact that Steinsalz's work is accessible only to those who know Hebrew (an English translation is now in preparation) his collected works have now sold 500,000.

It is his new edition of the Jerusalem Talmud, however, which is now inviting accolades from diverse quarters. Smaller than the Babylonian Talmud, the Yerushalmi is a more formidable text because of its obscurities of language and stylistic problems. The major difficulty is that the Yerushalmi has no Rashi commentary to assist those who study it.

In his pioneering edition of the Yerushalmi, Steinsalz has found a challenge which, judging by his ferocious intellect, he has met admirably. As a result of his work, it is now being said that he has changed the basic curriculum of Jewish learning for all future generations.

"I try to invest my efforts in matters that I believe are significant," said Steinsalz in a recent interview with The Jerusalem Post. "I am involved in matters I believe will have an influence in the long term — 50 or 100 years."

Rabbi Adin Steinsalz has earned the admiration of our own generation as well as that of posterity.

Anthropologist traces history

Is Jamaican Jewry waning?

THE JEWISH WORLD

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The Jews of Jamaica have a long and illustrious history, but is the Jamaican Jewish community on the wane?

Sephardic Jews may well have been the first white settlers to set foot on this Caribbean island, as anthropologist Carol Holzberg says they preceded the arrival of the African slaves.

Always insignificant numerically, Jamaican Jewry has grown still smaller in recent years. And today, no more than about 300 Jews are left on the island, representing .025% of the population. Is the end in sight? Holzberg appears to believe so.

In *Minorities And Power In A Black Society: The Jewish Community of Jamaica (The North-South Publishing Co., $17.95)*, Holzberg skillfully traces the development of a wealthy, powerful minority that has wielded considerable influence over the island's affairs.

Now teaching at the University of Massachusetts, Holzberg ascribes the longevity of the community to several factors, notably communal solidarity, the existence of synagogues, special schools and burial societies and the maintenance of specific rituals and ceremonies.

Key factors

Intermarriage, however, has had an impact. The author claims that there have been so many mixed marriages — and conversions — over the centuries that most of the descendants of the original Sephardim have assimilated within Jamaican society.

After all these decades of miscegenation, *Jewmaicans* are no longer exclusively lily white, with the result that there are Black and even partly-Chinese Jewmaicans today. Interbreeding has been such that at a B'nai B'rith dinner in 1975, Holzberg writes, 18 of the 25 couples in attendance were the products of intermarriages.

Furthermore, since the departure of Jamaica's last rabbi in 1978, the position of "acting rabbi" has been held by a man who, technically speaking, is not even Jewish. Ernest de Souza, the secretary of the United Congregation of Israelites, was born before his mother converted to Judaism. And he himself married a Christian whose conversion did not occur until three years after their marriage.

Holzberg says that strict Orthodox Judaism in Jamaica has been abandoned. Few Jewish families usher in the Sabbath with a candle-lighting ceremony or a festive dinner at home, and most Jewmaicans do not observe the dietary laws. She relates that at a 1974 B'nai B'rith dinner, held to honor de Souza and another prominent Jew, the chicken was garnished with strips of bacon.

Despite all this, Jamaican Jews take their Judaism "very seriously." As she puts it: "They see themselves as different from the non-Jewish population by virtue of their collective history, enduring support for Israel, and their tendency to employ their own as secretaries, accountants, lawyers, company managers, engineers... and the like. If possible, they shop for groceries at the Jewish-owned supermarket, they have their hair done by the Jewish hairdresser..."

Apart from relying on co-religionists for mutual assistance, Jewmaicans feel themselves to belong to a community characterized by what she calls "overlapping social networks and shared kinship ties."

Holzberg notes that the United Congregation of Israelites, in Kingston, now the only functioning synagogue on the island, is the most important institution that binds Jewmaicans into a coherent community... "the primary symbol of the presence of a distinct and viable Jewish community."

Jewmaicans came originally from the Iberian peninsula. In the mid-17th century, after the British conquest, there was already a thriving community there. At no point did the Jewish population ever exceed 2,000.

Jewish traders in Jamaica fared well, prompting Christian merchants to demand that they be restricted to the wholesale trade. The British governor ignored their plea, being of the opinion that his Jewish subjects were too valuable to be cut down to size.

In 1672, the merchants of Port Royal drew up a formal expulsion petition to be presented to the governor, charging that Jews were underselling them. But this did not succeed either.

Nevertheless, Jews were barely tolerated, suffering social discrimination, exclusionary legislation and special taxation. Although they were granted the vote by an Act of Parliament in 1740, they were denied the franchise by the Jamaican Assembly, and it was not until 1831 that they attained full civic and political equality.

Holzberg points out that the emancipation of Jamaican Jewry, far from being triggered by humanitarian concerns, was more likely than not a function of economics. Simply put, it made no sense to keep them down.

Jewmaicans have contributed mightily to their country, having been involved in manufacturing, commerce, agriculture, banking, land development and politics.

Jamaican Jewish "firsts" include the first book to be published under British rule, the first Ford agency in the Western hemisphere, the first steam or power-generated sugar mill and the first Shell gas agency.

Jewmaicans were instrumental in the discovery of bauxite (a mainstay of the economy) and they were pioneers in the production of cement, pulp and paper, glass, drugs and matches.

The Gleaner, Jamaica's oldest continuously published daily newspaper, was founded by Sephardic Jews, Jacob de Cordova and his half-brother, Joshua. Today, it is partly owned by Jewish interests.

Figures supplied to Holzberg by the Jamaican stock exchange suggest that Jews constitute 24% of the entrepreneurial elite. In 1978, six of the 14 most important "national entrepreneurs" were Jewish.

Jamaican "veranda chit chat" holds that the commanding heights of the economy are controlled by 21 families. Foreigners control the bauxite industry, Chinese control retail food distribution, Syrians monopolize the retail clothing trade, European whites dominate the sugar industry, while Jews control much of the manufacturing and industrial production.

Economic elite

Jewish families like the Ashenheims, the Henriques and the Matalons have come to symbolize the accomplishments of the economic elite, Holzberg writes.

Politically, Jewmaicans have not done badly either. Eli Matalon has been mayor of Kingston and minister of national security and justice. Neville Noel Ashenheim was ambassador to the U.S.

For all its achievements, the community is in a state of decline. Today, there are more funerals than weddings, and Holzberg says that "the days of a truly powerful Jewish community are numbered."

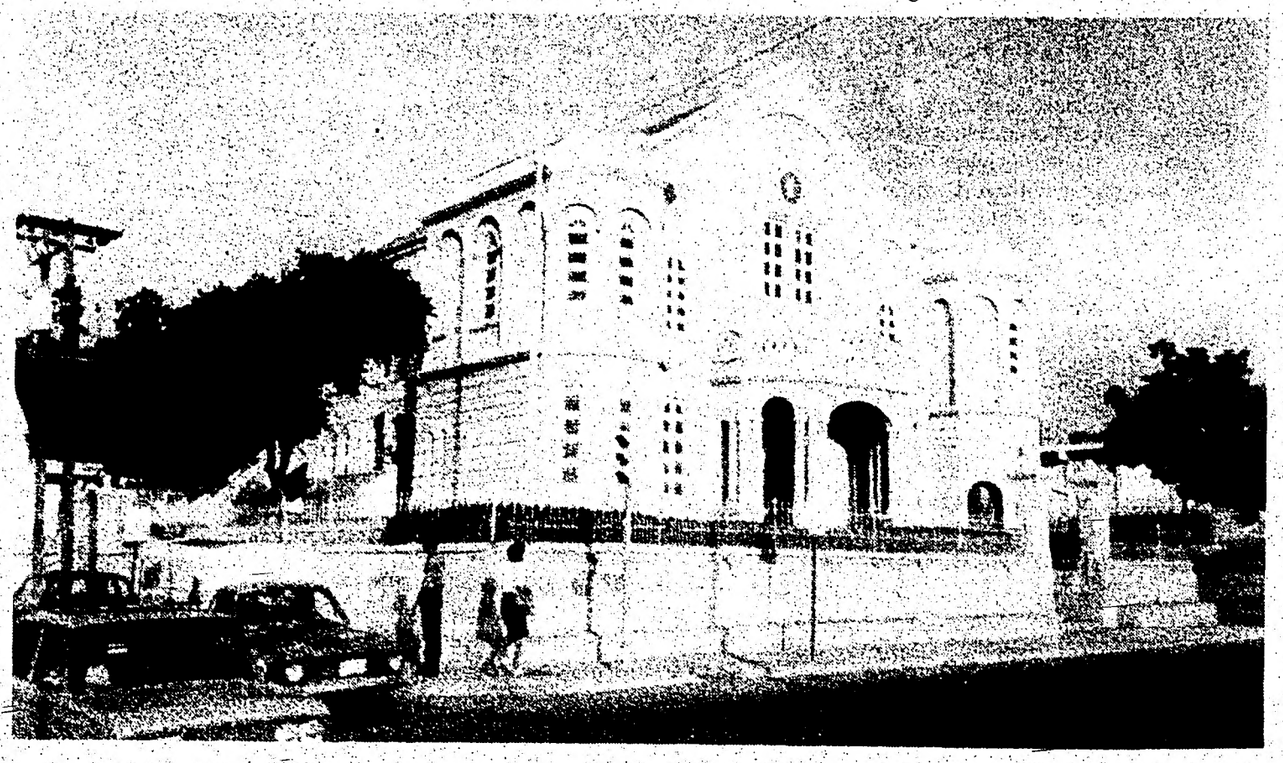
Factors responsible for this are the low birth rate, intermarriage, conversion and a law requiring non-naturalized residents to pay an annual fee for permission to work.

Emigration has also taken its toll, she adds. Between 1966 and 1976, 220 Jews immigrated to the U.S., Britain, Canada and Australia.

Some families have emigrated in search of better educational opportunities for their children.

Jews have also cited reasons like political uncertainty, deteriorating economic conditions, crime and reverse racism.

It is clear that the golden age of Jamaican Jewry is nothing more than an historical memory now. Carol Holzberg's book enshrines it.



Jamaica's only synagogue is in Kingston.

Opinion

CJN's Broadway critic and chronicler

Gerry Morris transforms his dream into reality

BY
CYNTHIA GASNER

Comedian Jackie Mason (left) is another giant in the entertainment world interviewed by Gerry Morris (right), New York theatre critic for The Canadian Jewish News.

TORONTO —

To interview Gerry Morris, syndicated New York Broadway critic and chronicler of some of theatre's greatest personalities, is to be carried away on his magic carpet to the world of grease paint, opening nights and the excitement of the behind-the-scenes world of the rich and famous.

Simultaneously, it is a glimpse at a sensitive and articulate individual whose business, failures, and the rebuilding of a shattered life, have led to a sound set of values based on friendship, loyalty and a recognition of the importance of living every day to its fullest.

Few people can live out their fantasies. Gerry Morris has transformed his fantasy of rubbing shoulders with luminaries in the entertainment world into an every-day reality, profiling George Burns, Sid Caesar, Sammy Davis Jr., Jackie Mason, Alan King, Jule Styne and a host of others.

Morris was born in Woolwich, a poor working-class part of London, England and he came to Canada as a young boy. A high school dropout from Western Commerce, he became a boy wonder in the real estate business. He and Riley Brethour, another young, progressive, real estate salesman, founded Brethour and Morris Real Estate, a company that became solidly established among the top three in Canadian real estate companies in the 1950s.

Morris, now 64, vividly recalls the "glitzy wild period" of his life when he pursued "lavish parties, women, and empty and superficial relationships." He says he was unprepared for the responsibilities of his mercurial financial success. He poignantly describes that period as "a time when the word failure was not in my vocabulary." But fate was to play games with the inveterate dreamer.

Looking back, he recalls that his love affair with live theatre blossomed in 1949 when his lifelong friend Sam Warner invited Gerry to accompany him to New York on a theatrical weekend. "After that, I flew to New York whenever I could — it was in my blood — and my friends called me Stagedoor Gerry."

And theatricality became part of Brethour and Morris — creative merchandising became the company's hallmark. A good share of the profits was directed to entertainment promotion as the partners trailblazed a circus atmosphere into Toronto real estate. "At an internationally-flavored concert, we presented 16-year-old Teresa Stratas (now a Metropolitan Opera star), for the first time to an audience of 12,000 at the Exhibition."

But the bubble burst. "We overextended ourselves in too many allied fields. During the 1959 recession, we shrunk our operation to avoid bankruptcy." Gerry's financial world came tumbling down, his marriage ended, and "the American dream had gone sour."

After a great deal of soul searching, at this low period in his life, the entrepreneur came to the startling realization that he had built a life that was "hollow and emotionally unrewarding." He says it jolted him. "I learned to appreciate and nurture good friendships and I began by making friends with myself."

When he started over again, he decided to change his lifestyle to what he describes as "a quality existence. Basically, I never stopped living . . . I just shifted my priorities."

The one thing that Gerry never shifted away from was his devotion to his parents Fay and Harvie Morris. His inspiring mother is a sprightly young-at-heart-and-body woman of 85. His mother recalls when she worked for 25 cents an hour during the Depression.

"Gerry would stand and watch me work at my sewing machine at home. One day, he turned to me and said, 'Some day, Ma, I'll make you a queen.' " Beaming with pride, his mother adds, "And believe me, he truly kept his promise."

Gerry notes that his 87-year-old father has always been a role model for him. "I revere his quiet wisdom and judgment, and he was never too busy to listen and to share his thoughts with me." His parents, who both exercise regularly, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

After a prolonged illness while she was in her 50s, his mother began to follow the natural hygiene lifestyle. Although dubious at first, after seeing the astonishing results, Gerry also adopted vegetarianism and a dedication to an exercise regime. Regardless of how busy he is, he always finds time in his crammed day to work out regularly in the pool, cycle, play tennis or take long walks. But he is quick to point out that "vino and a cigar a day are here to stay — they are my pacifiers."

As the 1980s approached, Gerry's life was about to take a new direction. The turning point was a trip in 1983 to the Colonnade Hotel on Singer Island in Florida to spend some time with his close friends Harry and Arlene Rasky.

It was there that he met and formed a close friendship with the legendary lyricist, Irving Caesar, who wrote such favorites as *Swanee, Tea For Two,* and *Crazy Rhythm.* Caesar, now 93, sponsored Morris' membership in the highly prestigious New York Friars Club, a show business organization formed at the turn of the century. Now, says Gerry, it is his home-away-from-home, and it has provided him with a link to the world for which he has always yearned.

Framed photos of celebrities line walls of home

It was another elder statesman, this time in the Toronto community, who encouraged him to venture into the field of writing. H. Max Swartz, a longtime friend, suggested that Gerry contact The Canadian Jewish News and offer to write New York theatre reviews. Despite his doubts, he whipped up the courage to give CJN's editor Maurice Lucow a call. "Why not, I thought. . . what the hell, my mother began studying the piano at 70 and voice at 80. We're late bloomers in our family."

The rest is history. Along with his in-depth interviews with numerous celebrities including Sid Caesar, Milton Berle and Lou Jacobi which appear regularly in The CJN, Gerry Morris is a featured writer with the New York Friars Club's show business newspaper, Ye Epistle, and he is syndicated in 185 Anglo-Jewish newspapers throughout the United States and Canada through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Gerry's mid-town Toronto home reflects his success. His walls are filled with framed pictures of himself and celebrities, tapestries, caricatures, and letters from those whom he immortalized.

Sammy Cahn, famed lyricist and the president of the Songwriters Hall of Fame, writes about Gerry's articles. "They are in your usual style which is impeccable and informative and just GREAT reading."

Irving Caesar comments, "You have rendered unto Caesar a longevity that even the blade of Cassius would but scratch."

Milton Berle: "The piece that you wrote about me is absolutely marvellous and I'm so happy we had the interview. You captured me perfectly — it is one of the best biographical articles ever written about me."

Sid Caesar: "Your piece on me is one of the best done on me ever. I envy you your work and admire it because the detail and love show through."

But most of all, Gerry prizes a letter from Mayor Ed Koch thanking him for conveying, through his writings, such "a positive and spirited image of New York City."

Morris' easy flowing style gives you the impression that he has just dashed off an article. "On the contrary — I have never worked harder in my life. I don't know of anybody whose first language is English who uses a dictionary and a thesaurus as much as I do. I write draft after draft until I get it just right. I think I write 15,000 words to get 1,000."

Today, Gerry Morris — sometimes called Broadway Gerry — is one of those rare journalists who writes not from the outside, but as a participating insider. He is a member of Outer Critics Circle, Drama Desk, and the American Theater Critic Association.

Morris explains that most writers see performers as egomaniacal phonies. "The ego stuff with the stars doesn't bother me. I see them as people who have risked and often failed but have relentlessly pursued their dream."

He adds that his own personal defeats and agonizing comeback have helped him understand those he interviews. "I can identify with their rollercoaster careers," he emphatically adds. "How can you help but admire their talent and the joy they have given the world?"

Now successful in realty finance, Gerry credits his "loyal and high quality staff" for their friendship and support which allows him the freedom to pursue his new-found avocation.

Above all, he says with humility, he values the friendships that have sustained him throughout his most difficult crises. "I credit my friends, Stan Greben, Harry Rasky, Ben Wintrob and Cecil Linder who provided me with words of encouragement and genuine assistance along the way."

Gerry comments that although he is still a dreamer, he has not lost his sense of pragmatism. "I have a deep respect for the creative use of money. Its greatest by-product reward for me is that it has opened doors to freedom and independence — it has given me peace of mind and the resources to express my creative urges."

In New York several days a month, he says that his love for that city continues to grow. "When the airline stewardess announces, 'Fasten your seat belts and prepare for the descent to La Guardia Airport,' I prepare for the ascent."

He believes that "if you keep busy, you haven't time to grow old, or at least you don't notice it. You have a youthful outlook when you have something to look forward to each day."

And now, Gerry has embarked on a new venture. He is preparing the manuscript for a book on his collection of profiles on leading Jewish-American figures in the entertainment world. Several New York publishers have indicated an interest in his material.

Looking back, Gerry says that the greatest thrill in his life was being asked by the Friars Club to do the text for a photo brochure commemorating Irving Berlin's 98th birthday two years ago. Berlin is one of America's most beloved songwriters and he wrote such all-time favorites as *God Bless America, This is the Army Mr. Jones,* and Broadway classics such as *Annie Get Your Gun,* and the scores for the Ziegfeld Follies.

"The thrill is still alive," he says. Now, Gerry has been asked to prepare a fresh chronicle of the life of Berlin to commemorate his 100th birthday on May 11, 1988.

Gerry quotes Al Hirschfeld, the theatrical caricaturist for The New York Times whose nimble fingers drew the caricature of Gerry that appears with his New York Times reviews and profiles: "You gotta know who you are — before you know what you are — before you do what you do."

The odyssey of Gerry Morris has taught him who he is, what he is, and why he is doing just what he wants to do — and loving every moment of it.

Opinion

Atlantic Jewish communities struggle to keep identity

By
PAUL LUNGEN

HALIFAX —

Sheldon Cohen can remember when Yarmouth was home to a thriving Jewish community. Young people were marrying out-of-towners and having children, the town's rabbi conducted regular services in the synagogue and the community could even support a full-time kosher butcher.

No longer. Yarmouth, Cohen sadly concedes, is a community in decline. Where once there were 35 Jewish families with children in the West Nova Scotia centre, today there are only about 31 Jews altogether — mostly elder'y empty-nesters whose children have gone on to greener pastures elsewhere.

Yarmouth is not alone in seeing its young people — its future — make their lives elsewhere. Throughout the Atlantic provinces, Jewish communities that were viable 20, 30, 50 years ago are near the end of the road. Young people from the Nova Scotia communities of Sydney, Glace Bay, Yarmouth, New Glasgow and Saint John, NB are leaving long established communities.

Usually it begins with university-aged people. Fulfilling a parental ambition and seeing their future elsewhere, they acquire the skills that give them the mobility and opportunity to be selective in choosing where to work and live. A few head west to Toronto, some go to the United States and many others find themselves in Halifax.

For many young people, the Nova Scotia provincial capital in Halifax, with its five universities, government offices and economic opportunities, is the Toronto of the Maritimes — a city that offers the greatest economic opportunities while providing a chance to maintain a Jewish lifestyle and meet fellow Jews.

The exodus from the smaller communities for Halifax has left the port city with a Jewish population of about 700 households — about half of Atlantic Canada's Jewish population.

Along with Moncton and Fredericton in New Brunswick, Halifax remains a vibrant Maritime community, with Jewish life centred primarily around the synagogues and in community support for Israel and other Jewish causes. The city has no Jewish community centre or Jewish day school.

Sheva Medjuck

Sheva Medjuck, an associate professor in the department of sociology and anthropology at Mt. Saint Vincent University who has studied Maritime Jews, says their story is "not a tale of doom and gloom. The larger communities have viable Jewish identities."

Over the past 15-20 years they have been losing fewer people to Ontario and Quebec. "Many say the economic opportunities in Halifax are good, and they have contacts here."

Medjuck, author of *Jews of Atlantic Canada*, says the Jewish population in the Maritimes has over the past 40 years remained "stable, with some communities growing and some in trouble."

Saint John, NB, home of one of the region's oldest Jewish communities, is in decline. "All the young people are gone" and there are only two or three children still attending cheder (Jewish school).

Sydney, on Cape Breton Island, has "the same kind of picture. It was certainly a very dynamic community. Its Jewish population is now very old."

Where once Sydney maintained "a consistent 125" Jewish families, there are now only 75. And where once a family consisted of four or more individuals, the figure today is more likely to be one or two.

The city "is struggling to keep its children," with only 8-12 youngsters, including some from nearby Glace Bay, participating in the afternoon and weekend Hebrew classes. Sydney has no rabbi.

Neither does Yarmouth, which "is struggling really hard." Though the mostly elderly community of 31 has been trying to attract one, it must make do with a "fly-in rabbi" from the U.S. who leads High Holiday services.

"When a community begins to lose its synagogue, it's in big trouble," says Medjuck, whose sociological/historical study took 3½ years to complete.

"There are usually no other Jewish institutions to tie the community together. The viability of the synagogue "is like a litmus test for the community," she says. Halifax, with two well-attended shuls, is "doing well."

Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax's Orthodox shul, is the city's oldest and largest. With 225 members, the congregation supports an attractive and spacious building.

Its rabbi, Marvin Pritzker, a native of Cleveland, says the membership has remained stable over the past few years, though it is "aging" with fewer large families attending.

The Beth Israel, he says with pride, lays claim to having the only daily minyan east of Montreal. During the High Holidays and other festivals, Jews from as far as Truro (a 2-hour drive northwest) attend services.

On average, three or four couples per year are married at the Beth Israel — the same as at the Conservative Shaar Shalom Synagogue. However, only the Beth Israel has a mikveh.

And when it comes to circumcision, there aren't enough Jewish boys being born in and around Halifax to warrant a full-time mohel, so one is "imported" when needed from Montreal.

"Nineteen eighty-three was a very good year," says Pritzker, who was principal of an afternoon Jewish school in Ottawa before coming to Halifax 11 years ago. "I don't know how it was for wine, but for Jewish births for our congregation, 1983 was a very good year."

Next year, he expects, 4-9 children will enter the synagogue's cheder, a figure that's about average.

Three teachers make up the school's staff, though Jeno Mittleman from Toronto doubles as cantor and Rabbi Marc Sevy from New York also serves as youth director. Altogether about 50 children aged 5-13 attend cheder, while up to a dozen teens attend the high school. Figures are slightly higher at the Shaar Shalom.

Maintaining a Jewish lifestyle in Maritime communities outside Halifax can be difficult, since all kosher food must be imported. Back in the 1950s, two kosher butchers served Halifax and surrounding areas, but no longer. Today, Sobey's, a regional supermarket chain, carries kosher food, mostly from Montreal.

A second supermarket, Atlantic Superstore, is attempting to break into the kosher food market, while some in the capital order their foods directly from Toronto or Montreal.

That's how the Jews of New Glasgow keep kosher, says Irving David. David, 61, spent the first 37 years of his life in the small community about 100 miles northeast of Halifax. There used to be kosher butchers in Sydney, Moncton and Halifax, he recalls, and shoichets (ritual slaughterers) in all three centres. After the shoichets and butchers aged, there was no one left to replace them.

In New Glasgow, four or five families get together and order a side of meat either from Ontario, Quebec or from Sobey's, he says.

Shimon Fogel, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council, which represents Jewish community interests, says that "in each town, by hook or by crook, some families serve as a conduit for the meat." Air freight charges alone cost almost as much as the meat itself, he adds, making kashruth an expensive proposition.

David looks back with some nostalgia at growing up in small town Atlantic Canada. At one time, in the early part of the century, a sudden burst of prosperity attracted many people. His grandfather immigrated in 1897 from Dorbian, Lithuania, and originally settled in Saint John.

He chose Saint John, David recalls, "because it appeared there was a possibility of making a living." In 1904, he brought the rest of the family over and David's grandfather continued to peddle apparel on the road, traveling throughout the province and Prince Edward Island.

In 1908 the family moved to Bridgewater, 65 miles southeast of Halifax and in 1913 they opened a store in New Glasgow. At that time there were about 20-25 Jewish families in the area, but after World War I they started "spreading their wings." Some left for other Maritime locations, others to the U.S. and some for the larger Jewish centres in Canada.

David's parents prospered and along with eight or 10 Jewish other families, remained in New Glasgow. In the 30s the community supported a rabbi for 3-4 years and "we had a few bar mitzvahs." In those days they davened in an auditorium, but "you had to fight like mad to get a minyan."

The decline of the Jewish community in New Glasgow ironically resulted from the economic success of its families. The newcomers worked long hours, often peddling clothes and other wares, getting enough capital together for a small business and then sending their children off to university.

Many never came back. "The attrition of the young people from the small communities was significant," says Fogel. There was "no one to marry" and it was difficult to maintain a Jewish heritage.

"The new breed of Jew was university-trained and a little more mobile than their parents who were tied to the stores," adds David. They were encouraged by their parents to settle in larger Jewish communities where they could find mates and a Jewish chevra.

Sheldon and Irene Cohen.

The Jewish Maritime population was not replenished by the immigration wave that followed the Holocaust. Less than 40 families from Europe settled in the Atlantic provinces, though for most Halifax was their first stop in Canada. Almost all continued to Toronto, Montreal and further west where Jewish Immigrant Aid Services were located and where they could receive community support.

The patterns of decline played out in New Glasgow and Yarmouth were repeated in Truro, Antigonish, Woodstock and Chatham, NB. "I don't know what's left there but the bootstraps," says David. Today, there are 24 towns in Nova Scotia which have 10 or fewer Jews.

David moved his family — wife Leah (from Sydney) and sons Aaron and Mark — to Halifax "to give them a Jewish education."

While the emigration to larger centres was one factor leading to the depletion of the Jewish population outside Halifax, intermarriage and assimilation was another.

"Hardly a family in Yarmouth was not affected by an intermarriage," says Irene Cohen, Sheldon's wife. While the Jewish community was close-knit and Yarmouth was a good place to raise children, the youngsters "were brought up as brothers and sisters and no romance will develop in that situation," she says.

"It was easy to bring them up as Jews," Irene recalls, but difficult to keep them Jews. There was a lot of intermarriage when they went away to university."

Medjuck's research led her to a similar conclusion. "Intermarriage rates are higher here than in other centres," she says, "since the Jewish population is smaller and the potential pool of Jewish mates is small. One would expect higher rates of intermarriage."

However, "Jews who do identify as Jews (in the Atlantic provinces) do so on all elements of Jewish life — religiously, with the synagogue and with Israel. Because there are fewer ways of identifying here, they develop a more diversified identity," says Medjuck.

Where once the Jewish immigrants — Haligonians are mostly of Polish and White Russian descent with some Galicianers — were very observant and tied to the ways of the shtetl, religious identification is not as strong as it once was.

Fewer Jews today keep Shabbat or eat kosher compared to 20-30 years ago, but Medjuck says 25% of those who responded to a survey she circulated said they had strictly kosher homes. "A significant majority claimed they did something like not eat pork, shellfish or mix dairy and meat in the home."

Dietary laws remain "a mechanism for identification," she concludes.

"Jews in the region tend to be very Zionistic and pro-Israel," she adds, while 82% said they belong to a synagogue.

For Reuben David, Irving's cousin, the creation of the Conservative Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Halifax 34 years ago was "the best thing that has happened.

"It gave more options" to the community, he says, and the arrival of Rabbi Jacob Chinitz four years ago "has rejuvenated" the shul and Hebrew school. The synagogue now offers discussions on social issues, cultural events, adult education, scholars in residence, entertainment and social events.

"It's easier now to be a Jew in Halifax than it was 30 years ago," he says.

Frankly, there's basically nothing irrelevant here

By
ELAINE KAHN

The problem with having wonderful children (pooh pooh pooh) is that, being genetically super-critical, I have to dig deeper and in increasingly picayune ways to find fault. My latest was berating Rachel daily for saying "basically" every second sentence — until I noticed the whole world was doing it.

"Basically" was the 1987 word, the way "definitely," "irrelevant" and "absolutely" had been earlier, and there was nothing I could do about it, basically. My husband believes that, every year, a group of maniacal wizards gather on a mountaintop in Brazil, conjure up the word of the year, send it out to us in intense waves of psychic energy and, cackling, go on a year-long bender once it has spread to People Magazine, ensuring its international success.

Sara's choice for 1988 word of the year is "drat" and my husband, pandering to my baser instinct, wants to revive Gable's "frankly." Last month I was talking to my sister, who began one sentence with "basically" and the next with "frankly," suggesting Larry has some kind of insider's knowledge. But my choice for 1988 is "oy."

About 30 years ago, my sister and I began saying oy a lot, having picked it up from Torontonians we met during a Miami Beach vacation with our parents. Our parents were not pleased — it sounded too Jewish. This point cannot be argued. But there is basically a lot of stress released by a heartfelt oy and I think, if it becomes the 1988 word, we will see a sharp drop in nail-biters and people who sit in the non-smoking section of restaurants playing with the sugar packets.

Oy also seems the perfect, if subdued, response to a year that will see the U.S. electorate fail to find a new leader, because the last literate faithful drug-and-alcohol-free centre-right heterosexual churchgoing white male in America was donated to the Smithsonian in 1904.

Oy is also my gut reaction to a year that gives us an extra day of February, which is right up there with November and harpsichord music as one of my favorite things.

You can say oy both when sinking into a hot bubble bath and after running over the neighbor's gerbil. When accompanied by tears of joy, it is the appropriate noise to make while hugging the bar mitzvah on a haftarah well done — it can also be used when he refuses to ever set foot in shul again. Oy trips easily off the tongue when stretching out on the sofa after a morning well-spent planting 9 dozen spring bulbs and again when you discover you planted them upside down.

Oy could run into trouble as the word of common choice in 1988 because, emotionally, it swings so many ways. The word of the year must be completely useless, adding zilch to the meaning of the sentence it's in, and emotionally neutral. That is why "basically" is destined for the Annual Irritating Overused Word Hall of Fame.

But I think it's time we had an ethnic word to bore each other with and, in deference to Western Canada, oy is safer than "jejeune," a personal favorite which was quick out of the gate after *Annie Hall* but fell back on the far turn.

Besides, wouldn't it be fun to hear Brian Mulroney say it?

Opinion

Jewish demographic clock to ring louder in 88

By
J. B. SALSBERG

I predict that in 1988 the Jewish demographic clock, both in Israel and the Diaspora, will ring louder in the ears of every responsible segment of the Jewish leadership.

This will be so, not because that leadership had been unaware, until now, of the demographic trends in our Jewish world, but because few, if any, spoke publicly about it. It is our non-Jewish friends, for reasons of their own, who have now begun to speak about it publicly and to urge us to pay attention to it.

J. B. Salsberg

Before proceeding further I urge you not to be mystified by the word demography. It simply refers to the branch of social science that collects and interprets the statistics of births, deaths and health of a people, a nation.

Those studies usually reveal population trends that should guide the social and political leadership of a people in charting its course for the future.

So, whether or not we call it by its scientific term, the fact is that our leadership, if worthy of its salt, always **took account** of the findings of our demographers and planned accordingly. But it cannot be said that our leaders have always **been guided** by the findings of the demographers. The leadership's political thinking often caused them to ignore or openly reject the realities of life that the demographers pointed to. But that, too, is another matter.

What has catapulted demography to centre stage is the fact that very, very prominent non-Jewish diplomats and statesmen have, publicly and diplomatically, urged their Jewish friends and political equals to please pay some attention to the Jewish demographic clock and to draw the obvious lessons from the indications of that clock . . . Suddenly Jewish demography became popular. . . .

It was no secret that when Shimon Peres (Labor), when co-leader with Yitzhak Shamir (Likud) of Israel's government, was engaged in a dynamic drive — at home and internationally — for a negotiated peace with Jordan and the moderate Palestinians, he was openly opposed by Shamir.

In my view Peres was fully aware of the demographic clock in Israel and in the historic areas of ancient Israel. Peres knew what time it was on the demographic clock while Shamir, guided by his rather extremist national ideology, rejected Peres' endeavors.

It was in the midst of that publicly displayed difference between the two major partners in the present Israeli coalition government that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz utilized his address to the annual national convention of the American Hadassah (July 1987) to say: **"I don't have to tell you — if you include Israel and the occupied territories — what time it is on the demographic clock in the land of Israel."**

This was a clear reference to the much higher Arab birth rate than that of the Jewish population in Israel.

Thus did the dormant issue of demography hit the centre of Jewish attention.

But the demographic factor got an even greater leap to centre stage when President Ronald Reagan received Israeli President Chaim Herzog in the White House on Nov. 10. At that intimate meeting between the two presidents, President Reagan informed his guest of his concern with the demographic danger that is mounting against Israel.

That did it! The simple scientific term that deals with births, deaths, health, etc. . . . statistics of Israel's population. **Demography** became a household word and actually focused attention on what is beyond doubt a central problem in Jewish life today.

In simple language, what all this means is: That the Jewish population figures are declining everywhere and that in Israel, while the Jewish population figures are not declining, they are, however, being overtaken by a more rapidly growing Arab population!

Israeli demographers predict that if the present trend should continue there could be more Arabs than Jews in Israel by the end of this century! This prediction is based on the assumption that the areas of "the West Bank" (Judea and Shomron) will continue to be held by Israel. If they were to be excluded from Israel proper — as they were until the Six Day War — then the Arab population pressure on Israel would be reduced to manageable proportions.

At any rate, the Israeli demographers are forcing us to recognize the very serious problem of a **Jewish Israel** — a problem that many were bothered by, but that was swept under the carpet. . . .

Of course, the whole thing could be managed by another million Jews from the Diaspora making aliya. But will they? Or should I say, will we?

In the meantime, my friends, get ready for the shrill sound of the Jewish demographic clock that is ticking away. It will not be allowed to become silent. If no one else will draw your attention to it then it will be the Reagans and the Shultzes. . . .

And so: Happy season!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome if they are in English or French, no more than 250 words, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and handwritten signature.

* * *

BRAVO TO TENNIS SUPPORTERS

On behalf of all of us who were in at the beginning, many thanks, David Lazarus, for your story about the Israel Tennis Centre Classic in the Nov. 26 Montreal edition of The CJN.

Shrinking violet though he may be, Gerry Goldberg rates a salute for sparkplugging Montreal's outstanding contribution to this unique phenomenon in the vibrant life of Israel.

However, to omit Sidney and Betty Nowa's magnificent funding of the entire Centre at Jaffa from the chronicle would be a bit like leaving out the Exodus from Egypt from the history of our people.

Bravo, too, to Ralph Halbert, who was recruited by the undersigned to serve as the first national chairman for Canada of the ITC, and to Joe Frieberg — both of Toronto — who took over several years ago from Ralph.

The undersigned was the first Canadian founder of ITC and served as honorary secretary during its formative years.

A. R. Gruber
Montreal

* * *

PRAISES GORBACHEV'S ARMS CUT

I disagree with the Nov. 26 letter of Herb Landis headed "Going gaga with Gorbachev."

Landis is blinded by his hatred for the Soviet Union.

This is evident from his statements that "Gorbachev turns on his charm and we all go gaga" and that Gorbachev has become "a mashiach to some people."

There are many things wrong in the Soviet Union, but Gorbachev's peace policy is not one of them.

Landis has forgotten (or perhaps he was not born yet) that the Soviet Union has always followed a policy of peace and detente since the 1920s.

Ivan Maisky, Soviet ambassador to Britain, continually proposed a collective security pact that would have stopped Hitler.

Maxim Litvinov, at the old League of Nations, also proposed an alignment of forces to stop Hitler. But all these proposals were turned down.

The policy of appeasement by the British Chamberlain government was to give away country after country to Hitler, of pushing Hitler eastward to get involved in a war with the Soviet Union, in the hope the Nazis would crush the Soviet Union.

Thank God, he did not succeed.

The Soviet Union lost 20 million people in the Hitler war. There is no person in the Soviet Union who profits from armaments in the Soviet Union.

Landis seems to want a nuclear holocaust. The summit meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan was one of the first steps to complete disarmament and freedom from war and nuclear disaster.

Joe Boldovitch
Montreal

* * *

AMAZED BY ORTHODOX STATEMENT

I am amazed by the statement released by the Vaad HaRabonim (Toronto Council of Orthodox Rabbis) as reported in your Dec. 10 issue.

The CJN's report said that the Toronto Council, in a recent statement, "reaffirmed its opposition to the Canadian Jewish Congress unilateral decision to involve itself in Israel;'s 'Who is a Jew' controversy.

Their original statement to Canadian Jewish Congress — released by them to the press — criticizes Congress' national executive committee's motion to join in the coalition led by the Council of Jewish Federations to urge the maintenance of the status quo on the issue of Israel's Law of Return.

This second statement — understandably repeating their objection — surprisingly complains that Congress did not treat their communication properly and, among other things, did not give them "a respectful hearing."

Your readers should know that a meeting was held on Nov. 17 among Rabbis Assayag, Hoschander, Lowy, Kerzner, I. Shochet and Taub, representing the Vaad; and Charles Zaionz, David Satok, Saul Koschitzky, Herb Rosenfeld, Ian Kagedan, Steven Ain, Yehuda Lipsitz and me, representing Congress.

Mr. Zaionz, chairman of this region of Congress, chaired the meeting.

The meeting was held in consultation with Dorothy Reitman, president of Congress, and her national officers, to address the issues raised by the Vaad and to explain to them all of the circumstances surrounding congress action.

What was said at that meeting by all of us — and a lot of us, Mr. Zaionz included, spoke for Congress nationally — was, I believe, said with the utmost tact and consideration.

That neither side convinced the other of their respective positions on the issue certainly came as no surprise to any of us.

We did, however, believe that the Vaad representatives were satisfied as to the manner in which their voiced concerns had been addressed by Congress.

It is now evident that we were mistaken.

Donald Carr
Toronto

* * *

HAPPILY DELUGED WITH LETTERS

This is my belated thanks for Frank Rasky's remarkably comprehensive article on me last September headed "Maritimes professor stages murder drama" and subheaded "True-life story of bizarre case."

It was about the Toronto production of my 90-minute play, *Bruce Curtis: Journey To Bordentown.* It was also a profile of myself as an English professor at Acadia University, or, as Frank Rasky phrased it, "a flamboyant theatre impresario and 1-man culture factory of the Maritimes."

The response to the article proved that your readership is amazingly strong and devoted. I've been sent copies of the article from numerous friends and sources across the country. And some of these persons have not been Jewish, an indication that your readership is wide and diverse.

Keep up the good work with your very fine publication and don't let Frank Rasky get away. He is a national treasure.

Prof. Jack Sheriff
Acadia University
Wolfville, NS

* * *

GREETINGS FROM PM

Mila, our children and I wish to extend to your readers our warmest greetings during this festive season.

Among the nations of the world, this season has a universal meaning of sharing, peace and goodwill towards all.

In Canada, this holiday is celebrated in observance of a variety of customs and traditions which reflect the contributions of all those who have made Canada their home.

This is a time to reaffirm our own ideals and values in a spirit of compassion and love.

As we gather with family and friends, all of us can take a few moments to reflect on the past year and to look to the next with optimism and expectation.

May you enjoy this Chanukah holiday season in peace, joy and happiness.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney
Ottawa

* * *

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, his wife Mila and their children extend Chanukah greetings to CJN readers.

World-National

New trade protocol signed by Israel

BRUSSELS (JTA) —

Israel and the European Economic Community, after a long delay, signed a new trade protocol here last week that will give Israeli agricultural exports certain tariff advantages in the European market.

But Israel has to make important concessions to win the agreement, changing the way produce from the West Bank and Gaza Strip is marketed in Europe.

The protocol was signed by Avi Primor, Israel's ambassador to Belgium and the EEC, and by the permanent representatives of the 12 EEC member states. It must be ratified by the Parliament of Europe in Strasbourg, a formality not expected to take place before the end of the year.

The agreement affects mainly Israeli fruits, vegetables and fresh-cut flowers, which are popular on the continent during the winter season. It revises the original 1975 EEC-Israel trade accord in consideration of the entry of Spain and Portugal into the European Common Market in 1986. Spain, in particular, competes with Israel in agricultural exports, notably citrus fruits.

Although the protocol was initiated last year, final agreement was held up because Britain and Greece unofficially linked their approval to the separate issue of Palestinian agricultural exports to the EEC.

For a time, this threatened a breach between Israel and its European trading partners. Claude Cheysson, the EEC commissioner in charge of Mediterranean policy, in fact warned Israel several times that a crisis would occur if it refused to allow direct Palestinian exports to Europe.

Israel, which protested what it saw as an unfair linkage between the Palestinian issue and trade, insisted that all Palestinian exports from the territories it administers be channeled through the Israel state marketing companies, Agrexco and the Citrus Marketing Board.

In the end, however, Israel backed down. The new trade protocol provides that farmers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would have the option to export their produce to European customers directly. Israel also agreed that those exports would be labeled according to the place of origin instead of under the Israeli Carmel brand name.

France, Holland and Britain have offered to help the Palestinians set up export agencies to take advantage of the new arrangement.

DEDICATED REFUSENIK

Yuri Kubimov, the well-known Soviet stage director, discusses with Israel Foreign Minister Shimon Peres his plans to become a citizen of Israel. Lubimov, although not Jewish, is a dedicated Refusenik and has a Jewish wife. [IPPA photo]

Chirac meets with PLO rep

PARIS (JTA) —

Premier Jacques Chirac broke precedent last week by formally receiving, for the first time, a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Ibrahim Suss, who heads the PLO office in Paris, was part of a delegation of Arab ambassadors who called on Chirac to protest Israel's "repressive" actions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

They urged French diplomatic intervention "to stop the bloodshed."

Chirac, leader of the center-right government, has been actively wooing the Jewish vote for the past six years and until now has flatly refused to meet any PLO representatives. His diplomatic advisor, Francois Boujon de l'Estaing, refused to comment on the meeting with Suss.

But Arab sources said Chirac "could not do otherwise in the face of the increasing number of Palestinian victims."

The French government also made a significant switch in attitude toward the Middle East peace process when it called on Israel "to start a dialogue and negotiations" with "all interested parties within the framework of an international peace conference."

Until now, France has carefully avoided taking sides on the issue of an international conference, which has sharply divided Israel's coalition government.

But the statement read to the press after France's weekly cabinet meeting presided over by President Francois Mitterand, expressed the government's "worry and emotion" over the continued violence and loss of life in the Israel-administered territories.

The statement said convening an international peace conference "was now more urgent than ever before." Government spokesman Andre Rossinot stressed that this view was shared by both Mitterand, a Socialist, and the conservative Chirac.

Sharon move sparks furor

JERUSALEM (JPFS) —

There were public disturbances and heated debates in Jerusalem last week over Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon's new home in the Moslem Quarter of the Old City.

In East and North Jerusalem, youths angered by Sharon's move and by the situation in the territories threw stones and burned tires. Shops and private schools were closed.

No injuries were reported, but there were a number of small incidents throughout the city.

A total of 19 demonstrators were arrested, 12 of them in front of Prime Minister Shamir's house, where police used tear gas to break up the illegal demonstration by Arab and Jewish students.

Some Labor politicians and Moslem leaders said they were outraged by Sharon's move.

Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur called it "hooliganism under government auspices."

The mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Sa'ad a-Din al-Alami, decried the "dangerous . . . and infuriating act" of "the butcher of Lebanon, the blood-thirsty Sharon."

He charged that it was part of a government-backed plan to "kick out" the Arabs.

Sharon said that his move was intended to improve the security situation in the Moslem Quarter following the murder of two students there. He said he hoped his presence would draw more Jews to live in the area.

He claimed that former premier Menachem Begin had telephoned to give him his blessing.

The cost of guarding Sharon in the Moslem Quarter will be $500,000 a year in police salaries alone. This is in addition to the $180,000 currently spent on guarding his ranch, informed sources said.

Stereotypes remain in France

PARIS (JTA) —

A majority of the French population clings to stereotypical images of Jews, some of them bordering on anti-semitism, according to a survey taken last month, but the overall feeling has become friendlier of late.

The results of the survey by Sofres, France's largest public opinion polling organization, were published in the Jewish weekly Tribune Juive on the occasion of its 1,000th issue.

"The Jewish image is still linked to three terms: money, tradition and a cosmopolitan link to world Jewry," said Professor Emeric Deutsch, head of Sofres.

Deutsch reported at a news conference that 72% of the 1,000 persons questioned agreed that "Jews represent an international power as they help each other in overlapping frontiers." Jews were "linked to international capitalism" by 57%, and 48% thought Jews "tend to help each other to the detriment of other people."

While 91% described Jews as "very attached to their traditions" and 85% saw that as positive, 26% said that without Jews "France would be culturally poor," compared to 45% who disagreed and 29% with no opinion.

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Rabin adamant: Israel won't bow to pressure

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin made similar statements. He insisted that Israel would not bow to pressure from hostile elements.

Ezer Weizman, acting foreign minister in the absence of Shimon Peres, who is touring Latin America, met with Shamir for two hours to discuss the adverse image arising from the tough presentation of events in the world news media. So far, there is no word of any immediate initiative by Israel to balance those reports.

The strict orders given soldiers, to use their weapons only in life-threatening situations and to avoid provocation to the local population in the territories, reflect Jerusalem's sensitivity to the problem.

An idea raised to close the territories to the news media was reportedly dropped. It was said to have come up at a meeting between Shamir and Gen. Dan Shomron, the IDF chief of staff. Weizman said on a radio interview that he rejected it out of hand.

Meanwhile, officials of Israel's civil administration in the territories met with local Arab leaders to try to calm the unrest. But Arab municipality officials apparently have little control over what happens in the refugee camps where pro-Palestine Liberation Organization activists are said to be the source of unrest.

The authorities are hoping to convince merchants in the territories to reopen their shops, which have been closed for several days, and to prevail upon Arab workers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to return to their jobs in Israel.

About 60,000 Arabs from the territories have failed to show up for work in Israel, according to a report in Al Hamishmar. The paper said the effects of the strike are felt mainly at construction sites and in municipal services, such as street cleaning and garbage removal, in which many Arabs are employed.

In Jerusalem, the coalition partners continued to clash over short-term and long-term policy in the territories. Leaders of Likud's Herut faction accused the Labor Party of aggravating the ferment in the West Bank and Gaza by its "low profile," "know-nothing" policies.

They claimed that "quiet and security will be restored only when it is made clear that Likud policy will be the one to determine the future of Judea, Samaria and Gaza."

Laborites responded sharply, charging that Likud policies were hindering any advance toward negotiations for peace.

But Premier Shamir got in the last word. He attributed the unrest to the "defeatist reaction of certain circles" and charged that "there are those among us who believe that if we return to the 1967 borders, the Arab world will embrace us with love."

In London, where he was on a state visit, President Chaim Herzog charged that the wave of violence is due to the spread of Moslem fundamentalism, financed by Saudi Arabia and other countries.

Herzog, a former Israel Defence Force chief of intelligence and one-time military governor of the West Bank, also said the troubles stem basically from the conflict between supporters of Jordan's King Hussein and supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

At the United Nations, Arab speakers denounced Israel without exception. Syria's ambassador to the United Nations, Athi Al-Masri, called on the Security Council to impose sanctions against Israel and compel it to withdraw from all of the territories it has administered since 1967, in compliance with past UN resolutions.

The Egyptian ambassador, Abdel Halim Badawi, blamed the stalled Middle East peace process for the violence in the territories, for which he held Israel responsible. He charged that "certain forces" in Israel have decided on a policy of "terrorizing" the inhabitants of the territories.

Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Benjamin Netanyahu, accused the Palestine Liberation Organization of inciting the unrest in the territories. He said there has been an increase in violence and "many, many incidents of terror" were not reported, because they were interdicted.

UN vote upsets CIC

[Cont'd. from page 1]

position on the legal obligations of the UN's host country was predictable. However, the words regarding the PLO were unnecessarily and unjustifiably warm.

"We have noted the warm words of the Canadian spokesman with respect to the PLO and we intend to raise this issue with the Canadian government in the near future," he said

Spivak added it is the second time in just over a week Canada has used such warm language.

Similar words were used for the PLO when Canada recently changed its longstanding vote against a resolution on a UN division for Palestinian rights to an abstention.

The most recent UN vote on Dec. 11 follows the action of the U.S. Senate which, in approving in late-November a $3.6 billion (U.S.) state department authorization bill, adopted by voice vote an amendment by Republican Sen. Charles Grassley to close the PLO's UN mission as well as its information office in Washington.

The bill also passed in late-November in the U.S. House. The amendment was introduced there by Republican representative Jack Kemp.

Shutting down the New York office of the PLO's 13-year-old observer mission, headed by PLO spokesman Zehdi Terzi, could force some mission members to leave the U.S., said Thamara Tchenkeli, press liaison assistant at the UN.

Those with diplomatic status would most likely be affected, since it is unlikely their visas would be renewed, Tchenkeli said in a telephone interview from New York.

According to Jewish Telegraphic Agency reports, the U.S. state department opposes closing the PLO's N.Y. office.

However, the department, acting on strong pressure from Congress, has ordered the PLO information office to close in Washington.

This order was recently upheld by a U.S. District Court judge in Washington. The case is being appealed to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal for the District of Columbia.

ADL report studies skinheads

[Cont'd. from page 1]

27, has been linked to the neo-Nazi movement and has been arrested for painting swastikas on public property in Oak Park, and for violence in connection with a neo-Nazi rally in Ann Arbor. In addition, he has a criminal record dating back to 1979, when he was sentenced to four years in prison for attempting to commit aggravated assault against an Hispanic victim.

The report, entitled "Shaved for Battle — Skinheads Target America's Youth," was prepared by the fact-finding department of ADL's civil rights division. It included these examples of skinhead activity in the past two years:

- The terrorizing of a Black woman in San Jose, Calif., who was told "niggers pay toll" and threatened with being strung up in a tree when she tried to enter a park;
- The beating of a Black man outside a music club in Orlando.
- The distribution of a leaflet in Chicago proclaiming opposition to "the capitalistic and communist scum that are destroying our Aryan race" and a leaflet in Cincinnati declaring as a goal "to smash the present anti-white, Zionist (Jew) puppet-run government with a healthy, new white man's order!"
- The distribution of neo-Nazi literature and vandalizing of property with spray paint in Orange County.

The League said American skinhead gangs promote an ideology similar to that of their counterparts in Britain, where the movement originated in the early 1970s — a mixture of xenophobia and racial and religious bigotry, with varying degrees of linkage to neo-Nazis and other hate groups.

Divisive issues

[Cont'd. from page 1]

World Jewry. It will surely lose all relevance as a sectarian group," he said.

"If today's ideological minority at WZO would become tomorrow's majority, these standards of neutrality should equally apply, and it would be equally inappropriate to enforce ideological resolutions designed to cause embarrassment and divisiveness."

Rothschild says that had greater wisdom prevailed among the leadership of the various parties, this Congress could well have ended on a harmonious and constructive note, and could have ensured the future of the WZO which is evermore of gravely questionable value.

"It is sad that confrontations within Israel and the World Jewish community, be they of political or religious nature, should cloud over the magic beautiful dream of the rebuilding of Israel."

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Canada

Organizations and People

Koschitzky, Rafelman named new chairmen

UJA closes campaign by honoring volunteers

Harold Lederman (left) and Gerald Sheff each received a Karla Goldberg print for their efforts on behalf of UJA. [Graphic Artists photo]

TORONTO —

The United Jewish Appeal closed its 1988 campaign with a reception at Beth Tzedec Congregation honoring its volunteers for a job well done.

Co-chairmen for next year's campaign were also announced.

This year's UJA co-chairmen Harold Lederman and Gerald Sheff lauded the volunteers for their commitment to the Jewish people and for unstinting involvement in making this year's fund raising "the most successful ever in Toronto."

Sheff said: "The Council of Jewish Federations now considers our local campaign to be among the top four in North America."

Also in line for plaudits from Sheff and Lederman were campaign director Mark Gryfe and assistant campaign director Lisa Morrison, as well as Toronto Jewish Congress executive director Steven Ain. "All devoted themselves selflessly to the UJA cause."

TJC president Herb Rosenfeld thanked Lederman and Sheff for their leadership during the past year. He also paid tribute to Judy Sheininger, chairman of UJA Women's Campaign, which exceeded $3.4 million in fund raising totals.

Rosenfeld also praised UJA for the support base it provides TJC and its member agencies and institutions, and for its primacy as Diaspora Jewry's recognized link to the people of Israel. (Fifty-five percent of all UJA dollars raised locally are allocated for use in Israel's social services sector.)

Rosenfeld also announced that Julie Koschitzky and Don Rafelman will assume the UJA co-chairmanship for next year's campaign, which will carry the special designation: United Jewish Appeal/Israel 40th Anniversary Campaign. Jean Stevens will chair the UJA Women's Campaign.

Exact campaign totals will not be tabulated until next spring, in order to include the late pledges of contributors wintering in the south. Gryfe said that projections indicate UJA's 1988 results will be $4½ million ahead of last year's record-breaking effort.

Key volunteers, divisional chairmen and members of the senior campaign leadership received an artistic memento honoring their involvement — a print reproduction of a work by artist Karla Goldberg. Entitled Hineni (Here I Am), the tapestry from which it was reproduced serves as the parochet (or ark curtain) which covers the Holy Ark in the main sanctuary of Beth Tzedec. It was designed and hand appliqueed by Goldberg in 1985 to celebrate the congregation's centenary.

Two Ontarians chosen

FEREP winners named

NEW YORK —

Leah Pomerantz of Fruitland, Ont., and Jeff Springer of Downsview, Ont., have won grants from the Federation Executive Recruitment and Education Program (FEREP), sponsored by the Council of Jewish Federations. They were two of only 11 young adults selected from applicants from all over Canada and the U.S.

Springer is now at the Benjamin S. Hornstein Program of the Lown Graduate Center at Brandeis University at Waltham, Mass. Pomerantz is enrolled in the University of Toronto Faculty of Social Work in Toronto.

The FEREP award enables students to attend selected graduate programs of social work and Jewish communal service and includes an internship at a local Jewish Federation. When they have completed their studies, FEREP graduates are expected to make a long-term commitment to continue their work in the field.

Pomerantz is a 1982 graduate of the Hamilton Collegiate Institute. She received a bachelor of social work degree from the University of Western Ontario earlier this year.

She has been actively involved in the Jewish community, serving as a United Synagogue Youth advisor for five years, a B'nai B'rith Youth Organization leader and a member of Hillel. She has worked at the London Jewish Community Centre as City Director of the youth group and as Volunteer Coordinator; at Or Shalom Synagogue as a Youth Advisor; and at Beth Jacob Synagogue as a Youth Advisor and Sunday school teacher.

Springer attended the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. He received a bachelor of science degree from the University of Toronto in June.

His involvement in Jewish organizations includes membership in the USY chapter of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue during his high school years, followed by several years as director.

At the University of Toronto, he was vice-president and then president of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation. He was active in the UJA Student Campaign, coordinated a successful Cult Awareness Program, assisted in a food drive for the needy and handled a variety of other projects for the local Jewish, campus and general community.

Rabbi Weiss at Shabbaton

TORONTO —

One of the most colorful rabbis in North America will be the guest at a Shabbaton at Beth Tikvah Synagogue Jan. 15-17.

Rabbi Avraham Weiss, who went on a 6-day hunger strike to promote the release of Anatoly Sharansky and has been arrested several times for demontrating on behalf of Israeli Soviet Jewry causes, says: "When a Jew needs help, I will do everything."

for Soviet Jewry.

The human rights activist will speak on *Loving Each Other*, at an Oneg Shabbat Jan. 15, deliver a Shabbat morning sermon and speak on *Loving in the Community, Memoirs of a Jewish Activist* at a breakfast Jan. 17. During the breakfast, for which there is a $4 charge, a phone call will be made to a Refusenik family by Genya Intrator.

Rabbi Avraham Weiss

He is rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, a small Orthodox synagogue in an affluent section of the Bronx, a congregation so poor that his first services were held in a boiler room. He is national chairman of the Centre for Russian Jewry and Student Struggle

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*Canadian communities twinned with Or Yehuda include Hamilton, London, Windsor, Halifax and the smaller communities of Ontario and the Atlantic Region.

Mother tells CJC to take action on bigotry in schools

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO — There is so much racial bigotry against children in Kitchener-Waterloo schools that it is urgent for the Canadian Jewish Congress to speak out on the issue.

"We are hostages, we are targeted," said Monna Zentner, a parent and a professor at the University of Waterloo. "We need the CJC to speak up and take some of the heat. We are tired of having our children used as fodder."

Her remarks came in a recent forum which discussed the best ways of dealing with the harm resulting from teaching The Merchant of Venice, Huckleberry Finn, Black Sambo and other controversial classics.

Barbara Aggerholm, a reporter at the Kitchener Waterloo-Record, who exposed instances of bigotry in schools there, was ordered by her paper not to appear as a speaker at the forum, as scheduled, on the grounds that it would compromise her objectivity.

Forum moderator Rose Wolfe expressed regret at the sudden cancellation of Aggerholm's appearance, saying it was hoped that the reporter could explain the press's role in dealing with bigotry.

Zentner said the newspaper's action comes on the heels of "lacking the courage to give editorial support" to the two reporters who wrote a series on incidents of bigotry in the community.

Among these incidents, Zentner said students kicked around a life-sized doll marked "Jew," tied a Black student to a chair, told another Black student "You be my nigger and fetch for me," and called one Jewish student Shylock.

"There is another aspect to the situation," Zentner said. "Now students are using the word Jew in frightening ways. When a basketball fails to go through a hoop, it is a 'Jew.' When a student eats his whole sandwich he is a 'Jew' because he is greedy. If he fails to eat it, he is a 'Jew' because he is a waster."

A resident of the K-W area for 16 years, she said she knows that it is not unique, and she referred to a 1986 poll which showed that 27% of Canadians are anti-Jewish, with similar figures for other minorities, and that the anti-Jewish feeling is growing most rapidly in the under age-25 group.

"If a student raised a 3rd finger in the air, the teacher would stop it in 3 seconds, but the other things were allowed to go on."

Zentner said that even Toronto's racial relations code is not working in schools because teachers are monitoring other teachers.

Perhaps one of the most significant statements of the evening by a forum speaker came from a Black woman, Enid Lee, North York Board of Education's supervisor of race and ethnic relations.

"The leadership of our board is asking the teachers to take training in the teaching of controversial literature. If they don't, it could mean that they don't want to teach."

Lee congratulated the CJC (Ontario Region) for inviting other groups to take part.

Several Blacks were in the audience. One mother said parents are to blame for a lot of the bigotry exhibited in the classroom. A father said that at a home and school meeting he could not find any work exhibited which would give his daughter any sense of her identity.

He complained in writing to the board and the director of education. The teacher's response to the complaint was that the material shown was for reading and not for any other purpose.

Although the Waterloo County Board of Education suspended the reading of The Merchant of Venice in its schools, pending guidelines from the ministry of education and the Human Rights Commission, Zentner said she had opposed this move. The banning of books is not the answer, she said.

She added she is skeptical about teacher training as a solution, but she does favor moving the study of such works as The Merchant of Venice to higher grades.

Lee said the process of training teachers is a rigorous one and one which should begin immediately.

Wolfe said the CJC hopes to convince the Ontario ministry of education that the controversial works should be moved to higher grades and that teacher training be started.

She said that since the 1940s there has not been one year in which the CJC did not receive a complaint from a small Jewish community about the The Merchant of Venice. There was a complaint from Kitchener in 1966.

The keynote speaker, Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, senior scholar at Holy Blossom Temple, said that as minorities such as Jews and Blacks become more secure, they are encouraged to speak out in defence of their rights, instead of suffering in silence, and this may be true of the Kitchener-Waterloo situation.

"I noted that a number of teachers complained of being hurt in the process in the Kitchener situation and the newspaper said they were good teachers and should not be criticized. The good teachers are thus being portrayed as the victims. This is an old experience for Jews and an experience well known to the Blacks."

Rabbi Plaut said he first encountered The Merchant of Venice in German translation in 1926.

"I know what I went through after that play was read in class. Nobody talked to me for weeks and the teacher gleefully watched my pain. As a high school student in Germany I sat behind a student who was a head taller than me. At the end of every period, when the teacher left the room, he would turn around and box my ears, saying 'take that you s----- kike.'"

The forum was sponsored by the Community Relations Committee of the CJC (Ontario Region).

Schools, teachers sign new contract

MONTREAL — Three Jewish day schools and their teachers have signed a 3-year collective agreement, ending a labor dispute which saw the teachers working to rule for several weeks at the beginning of the school year to press their demands. The teachers had also given their union, the Federation of Teachers of Jewish Schools, the mandate to call a strike.

The three schools are United Talmud Torahs, Jewish People's and Peretz Schools and Hebrew Academy.

The old contract expired at the end of August, 1986. Negotiations for the contract just signed began in May, 1986, and entered conciliation last January. It expires Aug. 31, 1990.

Marcy Fewkes, president of the Federation, said the teachers and schools decided to accept the report of provincially appointed conciliator Bernard Boulanger on the few remaining issues that brought talks to a halt this summer.

"We have accepted the status quo on these issues. We gave up nothing and gained nothing, and neither did the schools," Fewkes said. These included the Federation president's leave of absence, teachers' workloads and scheduling, and seniority.

She added that the teachers are not happy. "Sixteen or 18 months of work have yielded nothing, but it had to come to some conclusion. The schools have enough other problems," Fewkes said, alluding to the proposed opening of a new English Protestant school in Cote St. Luc, likely in the school now leased by United Talmud Torahs.

Despite the signing, labor peace is not guaranteed for the next three years. Given the length of time this contract took to hammer out, Fewkes expects negotiations for the next contract will start soon.

"In other words, all we have done is bury the hatchet, not the problems."

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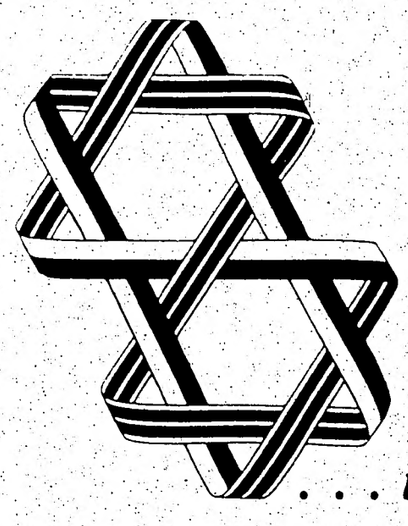

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Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM HERMAN

DEADLINE REMINDER

Starting with the Jan. 14 issue the deadline for material for the What's New and About People columns will return to the regular Monday at 5 p.m., the week prior to issue date (i.e. 10 days before). That means that the deadline for Jan. 14 is Monday, Jan. 4, at 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 27

JEWS IN ARAB LANDS

At a meeting of the Entertainment and Cultural Connection of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue on Sunday, Dec. 27, **Salah Mukamel**, chairman of the National Committee for Jews in Arab Lands of Canadian Jewish Congress, will speak on Facts the Mass Media Like to Forget — History Up to the Present of the Jews in Arab Lands. The meeting begins at 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave. (at Bathurst).

Everyone, every age, single or married, is welcome. Special tables are available for singles who want to meet other singles.

Be sure drop in for culture, conversation and coffee. There is no charge for members. Guests are charged $2. The coordinators are **Sandra and Jerry Genesove**.

PETAH TIKVAH BRUNCH

Petah Tikvah Anshe Castilla Brotherhood is having a brunch on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 11 a.m. at the synagogue, 20 Danby Ave. The guest speaker will be **Dr. Messod Salama**.

For reservations, call the synagogue office at 636-4719.

MUSICAL AFTERNOON

Dramatic soprano **Helene Rudolph** will present a program of Yiddish, Ladino and show tunes, accompanied by **Amy Gilbert** on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 2 p.m. at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

DOLL PARTY

Proud owners of dolls, stuffed animals and toy soldiers are invited to bring their old or new treasures for an hour of doll stories and films at the Doll Party at Fairview Regional Library, 35 Fairview Mall Dr. (east of Don Mills Rd.) on Wednesday, Dec. 30, from 2-3 p.m. This is for children 3 years and over.

This program is free but pre-registration is necessary.

CREATIVE MUSICAL VARIETY SHOW

The Creative Musical Variety Show, that popular group of senior entertainers from the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living under the direction of **Elaine Duff**, assisted by **Anne Sussman**, will be performing at the centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. on Wednesday, Dec. 30, at 1 p.m.

To find out more about this group, call 222-0655 or 222-7422.

Wednesday, Jan. 6

POMEGRANATE GUILD

The Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework, Toronto, Inc., is committed to encourage and inspire the creation, documentation and preservation of authentic Jewish fabric artifacts for use in connection with Jewish ceremonies and life cycle events.

At the meeting of Wednesday, Jan. 6, **Judith Tinkle** will demonstrate quilting techniques.

Future meeting dates are Feb. 10 with two workshops in basketmaking and masks and March 9 with a workshop on Passover pillows.

New members are invited to join and participate. Membership is $25 annually. Non-members are welcome for a nominal fee of $2. Coffee is served.

Meetings are at 8 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St. (unless otherwise noted). For information, contact **Faigy Grossman** at 656-5680 or **Karen Sanders** at 445-5250.

AT THE KOFFLER GALLERY

In connection with the exhibit of 64 of his etchings on view at the Koffler Gallery through to Jan. 27, Canadian printmaker **David Blackwood** will give a special lecture about his work on Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 8 p.m. at the gallery, 4588 Bathurst St.

The appearance of the exhibition at the Koffler Gallery is the exhibit's final showing after a very successful 3-year European and Western Canadian tour.

Admission to the lecture is $4 and $2 for members and patrons of the gallery. For information, call 636-2145.

Thursday, Jan. 7

A NEW LOOK AT THE BIBLE

Tzavta Kibbutz Centre is initiating a new study program, A New Look at the Bible, in which participants will be studying familiar text from a new perspective. Personal experiences and ideas will be valuable as commentaries. Please bring a copy of the Bible and a willingness to discuss these issues from diverse viewpoints.

The 5-class series will be conducted by **Rabbi Devorah Brin**, spiritual leader of Darchei Noam, the Reconstructionist synagogue of Toronto, starting off on Thursday, Jan. 7, with Creation Stories — Genesis 1 and 2. Classes are held at 8 p.m. at the centre, 1111 Finch Ave. W.

For information, call the centre at 736-0977.

And What Else Is New...

SHABBAT STUDY LUNCH

At the Beth Tzedec Shabbat Study Luncheon on Saturday, Jan. 9, **Dr. Martin Wolfish**, will speak on The Jews of Singapore.

Dr. Wolfish, chief of pediatrics at North York General Hospital, spent some time in Singapore recently and his talk will deal with the early history of the community and the role of that community in establishing a thriving British outpost in the Far East, the Japanese invasion and subsequent persecution of the Jews, and the present state of a small and dwindling community struggling to survive.

The luncheon is at noon, following services. The charge is $5.75 adults, $3.50 children under 12. Reservations (paid) should be made no later than Wednesday, Jan. 6. Unpaid reservations cannot be accommodated. The number to call for information and reservations is 781-3511.

STUDY OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Baycrest's Jewish Home for the Aged has been awarded a $6,400 grant from the Berman Fund of Congress to study the extent to which the lives of the institutionalized elderly have been affected by living through the Holocaust.

A questionnaire has been developed by Baycrest staffer **April Shour**. The first section explores the resident's background and the second examines his/her experience at Baycrest.

The questionnaire will look at the 75 residents of the Home who lived in Europe between 1939-1945 and who immigrated after the end of the war. A control group will also participate and the data from both sets of questionnaires will be analyzed and compared.

WINTER GUIDEBOOKS AVAILABLE

The 1987-88 editions of the Winter Book, Winter Packages and Winter Events are now available from the Ontario ministry of tourism and recreation.

The Winter Book lists 75 downhill and 250 cross-country ski areas across the province as well as snowmobiling and ice fishing facilities.

Winter Packages describes some 300 resorts, lodges and motels that offer midweek and weekend packages.

The final booklet is Winter Events, filled with things to do during December, January and February. Included are winter festivals, sports, performing arts and parades.

These booklets are available by writing Ontario Travel, Queen's Park, Toronto M7A 2E5, or by calling (416) 965-4008 or toll-free 1-800-268-3735.

TALENT NIGHT

The Entertainment and Cultural Connection of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue is planning another talent night. If you are interested in participating, contact **Jerry Genesove** at 625 Roselawn Ave., Apt. 304, Toronto M5N 1K7.

LONDON NEWS

The Temple Israel (London, Ont.) Youth Group got off to a great start at its formation meeting last month. **Eric Avner** was elected president with **Marc Lander** as vice-president and **Barb Lubell** and **Jonathan Avner** executive officers. The group advisor is **Jeff Phillips**.

Lots of ideas were discussed and tentative plans include a youth group exchange with Windsor's youth group, services conducted on Friday evenings for the congregation, a weekend trip to the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in February, informal classes, mitzvah days and a Purim carnival.

Post bar/bat mitzvah teens who would like more information, can call Jeff Phillips at 471-8329 or Eric Avner at 673-1259 in London.

JDF RAFFLE & GALA EVENING

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation 1987 Raffle and Gala Evening held at Metro Toronto Convention Centre recently was an overwhelmingly successful event which raised more than $1 million for diabetes research.

This year's raffle co-chairmen were **David Bloom**, chairman and CEO of Shoppers Drug Mart, and **Gordon Cunningham**, vice-president and COO of Trilon Financial Corp.

MUSIC FOR PEACE

Pianists **Martin Humphreys** and **George Vandikas**, singers **Catherine Duff** and **Tina Torlone**, clarinetist **Katherine Carleton** and cellist **Peggy Lee** are joining together for a benefit concert for Toronto Disarmament Network.

The concert takes place on Saturday, Jan. 9, at 8 p.m. at Heliconian Hall, 35 Hazelton Ave. Tickets are $7 general admission, $5 students, seniors and the unemployed if purchased in adavance, $8 and $5 if bought at the door. All proceeds will go to the Toronto Disarmament Network.

Tickets will be available in advance at the Toronto Disarmament Network, 555 Bloor St. W., 2nd floor, during regular business hours. For more information, call 532-5326.

AT THE ROM

Here's a list of some of the interesting and unusual events scheduled at the Royal Ontario Museum for adults and children during the holiday season.

Kinetic Toys: An Introduction to Moving Pictures — Dec. 26, 27, Jan. 2 and 3 — 100 years ago, children's favorite toys often included kinetic toys, which had moveable parts and allowed children to see optical patterns or pictures. **Robert Gutteridge**, founder of The Canadian Museum of Cinematography, will answer questions during a demonstration of kinetic toys. Several of the toys used in the workshop are original Victorian artifacts. The time is 2-4 p.m.

[Cont'd. on page 17]

OSTROVZER CLOSING BANQUET

At the recent Ostrovzer Society closing banquet, three members were honored for their work on behalf of the society with scholarships for the needy students in the Amal school system in Israel. A surprise presentation was also made to society chairman Joseph Snyder. The honorees are executive board members (from left) Abe Nyman, Snyder, Jack Rappaport and Paul Boimal.

TOP TICKET SELLER

Harry Bain (seated) personally sold 150 tickets to Beth Torah's recent Boys Night Out. He holds one of the fun door prizes given out to lucky number holders. With him is his co-chairman of the annual event Lou Lukofsky. [Mollie Rothman photo]

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

History of the Precursors to Moving Pictures — Dec. 28, 29 and 30 — The Canadian Museum of Cinematography presents a 15-minute slide show on the history of the precursors to the moving pictures from the 1860s to the early 1900s, followed by Martin the Cobbler, an animated film for children, and a question period. This is for ages 6 and up. The time is noon to 1 p.m.

Winter Fairytales — Dec. 27-31 — **Dan Yashinsky** and **Alice Kane** of the Storytellers School of Toronto use riddles, rhymes, verse, chanting and stories to tell tales of the winter season from many lands. This is suitable for ages 6 and up. It takes place at 2 p.m. in the ROM Theatre.

WINTER AND SPRING COURSES

The YMCA's winter and spring courses provide activity for the whole family.

These creative classes include parent and tot programs, pottery, dance, music and a variety of preschool courses.

Registration is now open for programs and courses starting the week of Jan. 9. You may register at North York YMCA, 567 Sheppard Ave. E., North York, Ont., M2K 1B2 or by phone by calling 225-7773.

HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES DISPOSAL

The City of Toronto department of public works has recently added containers for the recovery of household dry cell batteries to the glass and metal can recycling depots. For safe disposal, city residents are urged to bring their used batteries to one of Toronto's 17 recycling depots.

Toronto incinerates about one-third of its garbage. When burned, household dry cell batteries emit potentially hazardous substances such as lead, nickel, cadmium, mercury and chromium into the air.

For more details, call the Toronto Recycling Action Committee (TRAC) at 392-7850 during business hours.

RUSSIAN-JEWISH RADIO PROGRAM

Every Sunday evening from 9.30-10.30 radio station CHIN, AM 1540, airs a Russian-Jewish program produced by **Mark Shtern**, who also hosts the show. The program, in both Russian and English, consists of interviews, music, announcements, advertising, children's stories, book readings, and such.

If you would like to know more about it, call 665-9553 and leave a message on the machine.

NATIONAL POETRY CONTEST

Margaret Atwood, Al Purdy and **George Woodcock** will be the final judges in a poetry contest, open to all poets, established and new. The deadline for submission is April 15.

The first prize will be $1,000, with five additional prizes of $100 each. All winning poems will be published.

Poets may submit any number of previously unpublished works. All poems, with an entry fee of $5 each, should be addressed to Canadian Poetry Contest, 6429 McCleery St., Vancouver V6N 1G5.

Proceeds from this contest will go to CIVA (Canada India Village Aid), a non-profit organization that provides health services in the poorest areas of India.

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Following its successful opening night showing of Yidel Miten Fidl with guest speaker author **Linda Shapiro** last month, the Jewish Film Society of Toronto Jewish Congress is looking forward to its Sunday, Jan. 10, screening with poet **Miriam Waddington** on A.M. Klein. It takes place at 7.30 p.m. at the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St.

Tickets for the four remaining films in the series are still available at $25 with two free guest passes per membership. For information, call 635-2883, ext. 154.

FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH

Alzheimer's Disease, a serious disorder of the brain causing loss of memory and mental deterioration, is one of the key areas of research at Sunnybrook Medical Centre.

A supporter in the research effort and the hospital's artist-in-residence **A.J. Casson** painted the cover drawing printed on note cards of three pine trees standing at the entrance to Sunnybrook. Proceeds from the sale of these cards will all go to Alzheimer's research at Sunnybrook in honor of Mr. Casson's wife **Margaret**, who is afflicted with the disease.

These note cards are available in a set of five cards and envelopes for $6.50 and can be purchased from The Development Office, Sunnybrook Medical Centre, 2075 Bayview Ave., Toronto M4N 3M5. The phone number is 480-4483.

AFFIXING THE MEZZUZAH

Benjamin Abileah (right), consul-general of Israel, affixes the mezzuzah at the Open House held recently at the new national offices of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science at 45 Sheppard Ave. E. With him (from left) are Jacob Kosoy (below), Toronto board member; Adam Kahan, executive vice-president; James Kay, chairman of the board, and Thomas Beck, president. More than 50 supporters and friends joined the staff in celebrating the move. [Graphic Artists photo]

SOCIAL CHANGE LECTURE

Trudy Shecter, managing director of the New Israel Fund of Canada, recently addressed the Jewish Student Federation at York University. Her topic was Voices of the New Israel: Social Change in Israel. She is seen here talking to a group of students at the lunchtime meeting in the JSF portable. [Graphic Artists photo]

CHANUKAH SHAI L'CHAYAL

Carol Baratz, representing the Association for the Soldiers of Israel, presented a plaque to the students of Bialik Hebrew Day School. The school participated in a successful Chanukah Shai L'Chayal, a Gift to a Soldier project. The presentation was made at a senior students assembly which featured special guest Roy Tamir, national shaliach for Young Judaea, and included (top row, from left) Ziona Hagler, chairman, Israel affairs, Bialik Hebrew Day School; Baratz, chairman, Gift to a Soldier project, ASI; (bottom row, from left) Melissa Gerwitz, Jeffrey Erlich and Rosie Kogan.

at the jcc

The JCC Valley Singles Network (ages 30-49) is holding a New Year's eve party on Dec. 31, beginning at 8.30 p.m. Once again **Marianne** has offered her home and cold cuts, salads and dessert will be served. The charge is $18 Singles Network members, $22 non-members. Reservations are a must by Dec. 28. Call **Esther** at 889-0813 or Marianne at 731-2914.

On Saturday, Dec. 27, the Singles Network 49 Plus? Group is having a pre-New Year's celebration dance party with a deejay, refreshments, spot dance prizes and a door prize beginning at 8 p.m. at the Valley, upstairs party room, 7015 Leslie St. This is for singles 49 years of age and over. Admission is $4 members with cards, $8 non-members.

for seniors

Workmen's Circle Social Club meets for lunch on Tuesday, Dec. 29, at noon at 471 Lawrence Ave. W. This is the last meeting before the Miami trip. For information, call **Shirley Grotell** at 222-7721.

The Wagman Centre Self-Help Widows Program for women 55-69 years of age meets every second Sunday from 12.30-2 p.m. in the Lipa and Fanny Green Library of the centre, 55 Ameer Ave. The coordinator of the group is **Toby Warsh**. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 3. For information, call the centre at 789-5131, ext. 2271, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Widows 70 and Over Program at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave., meets every second Sunday from 1-2.30 p.m. in the conference room. The next meeting is Sunday, Jan. 3. The coordinator is **Micky Zimmerman**. For information, call the centre at 789-5131, ext. 2271, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Self-Help Widowers Program for men 55 years and over meets every second Sunday from 10.30 a.m. to noon in the Lipa and Fanny Green Library of the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. The next meeting is Sunday, Jan. 3. For information, contact the centre at 789-5131, ext. 2269, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

[Cont'd. on page 18]

CHILDREN'S BOOKS DONATED

Richard Longhurst of Mintz and Partners reads to patients Sacha Roganovic, 5, (left), and Monique Blais, 7, from among the 4,600 children's books donated to the Hospital for Sick Children by the Metro chartered accounting firm. [Imprint Editorial Services photo]

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Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 17]

Celebrate the festive season with **Beth Tzedec Friendship Club Plus 50** on Tuesday, Jan. 5, at 1.30 p.m. at the synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St., when singer **Elka Beigel** will entertain with songs that will delight you. Everyone is welcome. The charge for non-members is $1.50.

A choir is being formed as part of the new intergenerational music program called Inter-Link bringing together two separate choirs, seniors and elementary students, in two annual performances. It is sponsored by the North York Board of Education and the **Wagman Centre**. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. The musical director is **John Herberman**. So, if you are a soprano, bass or alto or just enjoy singing, call **Tanya Kuchinsky** at 789-5131, ext. 2271 to register or for information.

At the Tuesday, Jan. 5, meeting of the **North York Senior Walkers** learn concentration, auto suggestion, relaxation and imaging with **Leonard Rubenstein**, practitioner of the science of the mind. The time is 7.30 p.m. at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. Everyone is welcome. For more information about the meeting or the Sunday walks through Metro parks program, call 241-2932 or 635-5837.

About People

OISE NAMES FELLOWS

Musician-composer **Louis Applebaum** was named a fellow of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) along with **Roger Guidon**, retired rector of the University of Ottawa, **Phyllis Scott**, a classroom volunteer, and **Sybil Shack**, educator and social activist.

The awards were created in 1973 to recognize noteworthy contributions to education.

singles events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. For information on rates and deadlines please call Shayla at 422-2528.

Metro Toronto Singles Presents — 2nd annual Chanukah party, **Thursday, Dec. 24,** 8:00 p.m. **Desoto's**, 759 Mt. Pleasant Rd. (south of Eglinton). Traditionally our biggest party of the year. $7.00. Sid — 222-7111.

JCC Valley Singles Network — 49 plus? (Age 49 and over) Pre-New Years dance party, 7015 Leslie Street, upstairs, D.J., Refreshments, Prizes. Admission $4.00 members, $8.00 non members. Call 889-0813.

Metro Toronto Singles Presents — Post New Year's Party. Monday, Jan. 4, 8:00 p.m. **Le Club — Inn on the Park,** (Leslie St./Eglinton Ave.) $8.00. Sid 222-7111.

Cares for parents, children

"Women in middle" results studied

By
BEN ROSE

Prof. Benjamin Gottlieb gave the keynote address at a meeting of Toronto Jewish Congress. With him are (from left): Charles Diamond, chairman, social planning commmittee; Edwin Goldstein, chairman, elderly services planning group, and Debby Vigoda.

TORONTO —

The "woman in the middle," looking after her own children while she cares for an aging parent, harbors many resentments about the situation she is in, feeling it is interfering with her career, part-time job or further education.

This is the profile of the "woman in the middle" drawn by Prof. Benjamin Gottlieb of the University of Guelph on the basis of his 2-year research project interviewing 100 women care givers, average age 52, who live in small towns and cities in southern Ontario.

By chance, there were no Jewish women interviewed, but Gottlieb told The CJN he was sure their reactions would be the same.

The average age of the person they looked after was 84, with one out of four being older than 90.

Reporting his findings in the keynote address to an institute sponsored by the Toronto Jewish Congress recently Gottlieb, who was born in Israel, and educated in the U.S., said his own father is 84, lives alone in California, "far away from us," and is in good health and good spirits. "But we're concerned about the future," he said.

The 100 women were interviewed twice, once for three hours and once for two hours, a year apart, and some of the elderly relatives were also interviewed.

A total of 40% of the women said their roles as care givers prevented them from doing volunteer work or continuing their education, while another 40% said it kept them away from jobs and still another 40% said it meant less time to spend with other family members. More than half the women were caring for more than one relative.

"The cost is high," Gottlieb said. "It takes its toll on pursuing career goals and on health. It is a labor of love and it is emotionally draining."

A lot of information emerged from these interviews about the roles of the men. "Men generally were on the periphery, offering legal business advice to the care giver. Men are more reliant on women for emotional needs than women on men for the same reason."

Gottlieb said men are jealous of lost time with the care giver. "They become childish and nasty, saying things like "you are neurotically tied to your mother . . . you've always had a lifelong anxiety about your father, or you spend more time dressing your mother than you do our own kids."

The need to draw on more men was touched on as well by Ralph Shedletsky, who summed up two workshops. "We need to tap into men as care givers," he said. "We need the man in the middle not just the woman in the middle. We need them for more respite care, day care and home care."

Callous on elbow

In the film shown earlier by the keynote speaker, a man whose father has Alzheimer's and lives with them, speaks candidly of the burden it is on his wife, declaring, "I've got a big callous on my elbow from jabbing my wife in the middle of the night to get up and look after my dad."

Despite their frankness about the cost of the care giving on their lives the "women in the middle" gave the same two reasons over and over again about why they were doing it, Gottlieb said, these being a keen sense of filial obligation and thanks for what was done for them.

Gottlieb, a PhD in psychology, who is an expert on relations between aging parents and their children, said the situation breeds intense emotions. "Forty years later we can still feel upset about the way they spend their money or don't spend their money. And we can react in subtle ways, even denying them access to their grandchildren. There is a special kind of Jewish guilt involved in this."

Gottlieb said it is a mistake to assume that family care is superior to paid care. The majority of older women in a survey of three generations of women said they favored paying for their own services.

Recipients of care feel neglected because they dislike the idea of being a burden on someone else, he said. "They still want intimacy but they don't want to be beholden."

Edwin Goldstein, chairman of the Elderly Services Planning Group and Charles Diamond, chairman of the TJC Social Planning Council which sponsored the institute, welcomed the participants. Many representatives of Jewish agencies offering services to the elderly were present, but there was only a handful of elderly people or their children.

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Organizations and People

Ultranationalism, racism pre-dated Hitler

Conference examines cultural roots of Nazism

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON — German Jewish responses to extreme German nationalism mainly failed to comprehend the rising danger, a McMaster University professor told a recent conference here.

Cyril Levitt's paper dealt with the Jewish response to the rise of Voelkisch ideology. He is co-author, with William Shaffir, of The Riot at Christie Pits.

German nationalism and racial purity were being advocated by German intellectuals and writers, often in "viciously racist" works well before Hitler, Levitt said.

The Jewish response depended on how they identified, Levitt said. By far the majority considered themselves patriotic, loyal Germans who maintained German culture and traditions and saw themselves differing only in religious faith and practice.

Their organization was the Zentral Verein Deutscher Staatsbuerger Juedischen Glaubens (Central Organization of German Citizens of the Jewish Faith) founded in 1893, which "pursued a most aggressive policy against anti-semitism" through education, monitoring of schools and the civil service, by lobbying and through its newspaper.

The second largest group were the Zionists, who argued that anti-semitism was a necessary accompaniment of life in the Diaspora, to which the only solution was aliya.

There were two minority groups, Levitt said, one being the "red assimilationists, who thought that joining the international proletariat would solve all problems, including anti-semitism.

The other was the Verband National Deutscher Juden, a nationalist organization founded in 1921 by Max Naumann, a former Bavarian army officer and Berlin lawyer, who believed that Jews would be accepted by the Germans if only they would "rid themselves of every vestige of their Jewishness, but racism stopped him."

The conference examined the philosophical, cultural and social roots of German fascism and racial theories that led to the Holocaust.

It was organized by Hans Schulte of the department of modern languages and attracted more than 100 scholars from Europe, the U.S.. and Canada, and included Levitt, of the McMaster sociology department and Louis Greenspan of the department of religious studies.

The scholars examined the subject from a number of different intellectual perspectives.

Levitt is a former Torontonian who pursued his doctoral studies in Berlin from 1970 to 1976 and returned there in 1985 as a visiting professor.

"Although the conference was very good it offered no final answers, only insights," said Levitt, in an interview.

The development of inwardness is a strictly German phenomenon, explained Levitt. He said the period between 1870 and 1933 saw the development of various cult movements advocating the return to nature and to the soil, the purity of blood and race and in the early decades of the 20th century especially, back to nature movements such as nudism and nature cures became very popular.

There developed an opposition to city life and its artificialities. City life came to be associated with Jewish culture, and Jewish professions were seen as being associated primarily with money rather than with nature and the soil, Levitt said.

Ball teams get ready for trip to Dominican

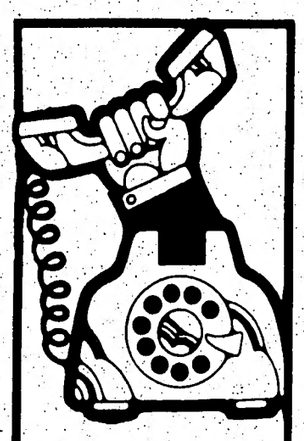
TORONTO — Two teams from the Thornhill Thunderbird Baseball Club are preparing to fly on Dec. 25 to the Dominican Republic for the first ever Canadian-Dominican baseball exchange.

The project to send the tyke and midget clubs for a week-long exchange evolved from an invitation by Dominican ministries of tourism, sports and fitness aimed at encouraging an already strong relationship between the two countries.

The kids will not only improve their baseball skills, but will benefit by being exposed to a new culture. A reciprocal visit by children from the Dominican Republic may take place next summer.

The youngsters involved are now busy collecting gently used baseball equipment to leave with their Dominican friends along with other Canadian and Toronto Blue Jays souvenirs.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the funding or to offer equipment should contact Aaron Bleiwas at 881-3141 or 243-2944 or Bram Perzow at 781-4513.



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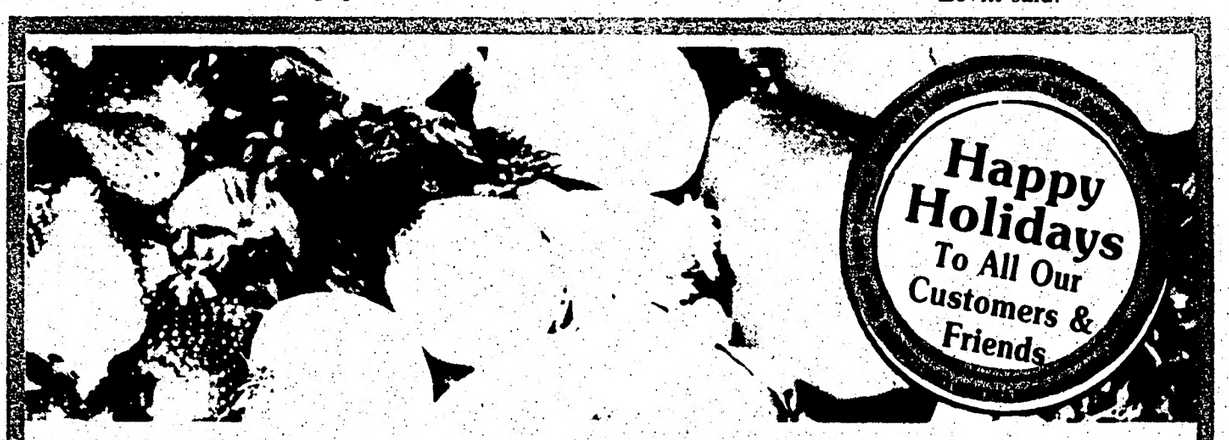

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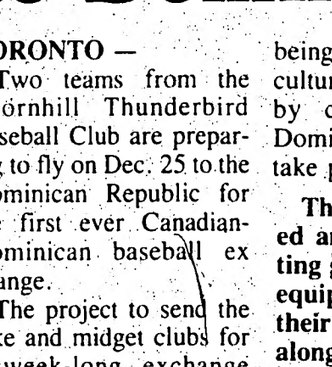

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Organizations and People

Moment outraged and assuaged its readers

Magazine's premise was to challenge beliefs

By
DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL —
Moment Magazine, the intellectual, provocative American Jewish monthly, was launched 12 years ago on a simple premise, says its founder and, until recently, its editor.

"We believed that if Jews were reading Atlantic, Harper's, and the New Yorker, they could also read a Jewish magazine at that level."

For Leonard Fein, who delivered the recent Allan Bronfman Memorial Lecture at the Shaar Hashomayim Congregation, his magazine has by and large lived up to its provocative promise.

Instead of pandering to the bourgeois expectations of American Jews, Fein was determined to challenge what he believed to be some tiresome, accepted notions about the state of Jewry, Israel, and to search for a "Jewish connection" to the modern world.

In the process, Moment became the largest circulation independent Jewish monthly magazine in the world. It also outraged and assuaged, raising both the hopes and hackles of its readers in addressing fundamental issues of Jewish identity.

Of course, this was all fine with Fein. From the very beginning, Fein, Moment's guiding hand, told American Jews that they were mired in a "nostalgic" culture, and preoccupied with a distorted, idealized view of their past selves as "paragons of virtue."

There was a "shtetl mentality" that sought to recreate a "Minsk in Montreal or a Bialistock in Boston," instead of seeking to address fundamental questions on building a pluralistic society.

Fein said that although the magazine through the years has been inundated with unsolicited articles and "mostly bad poetry" about the Holocaust and personal memoirs, most have not been published.

Moment's editorial outlook was that the Holocaust was an "obsession" in Jewish life. "Plainly one must remember and bear witness," Fein said, "but Jewish law says we must end the period of active mourning." Far more "central" to Jewish life was the communion with God at Mount Sinai.

The ongoing preoccupation with the Holocaust emerged from a Jewish inability to "define ourselves." "We want to be Jews, but we don't know what it means, so we use the Holocaust."

Moment's examination of Israel and Zionism, predictably, has provoked the most vehement reaction from critics. Fein recalled that one of the prime motivations for starting the magazine was that "to be a lover of Zion, you have to know the real Zion," warts and all.

The result was that Moment and Fein were attacked as traitors, which was no surprise to him.

He was more encouraged by the fact that the magazine also received letters of gratitude from Jewish readers who had been treated as pariahs by their communities for not reflexively adopting the Israel government line.

Fein's one regret is that Moment has been falsely perceived to be pursuing a political agenda. "We got an image as liberal, but my agenda was never political," he says.

"If there's one point I sought to make, it was that the way to defend Jewish interests was to defend Jewish values. If you want to defend Jewish interests and to survive, the way to do it is to be a vigorous defender of things that warrant Jewish survival, like justice. . . ."

JWB/JCC offering public relations seminar

MONTREAL —
Public relations directors from Jewish community centres throughout North America will attend the 3rd JWB/JCC Public Relations Institute, at the YM-YWHA & NHS of Montreal Jan. 19-21.

Designed to improve public relations and communications skills, the institute is open to all Centre professional and lay workers with full-time or part-time public relations responsibility.

Topics to be covered at the Institute include: Marketing, Telemarketing, Ethics in Public Relations, Desktop Publishing, Photography and Graphics for PR Effectiveness, Tools of the Trade and Time Management.

Scheduled presenters include Jay Levenberg, JWB consultant on marketing, who will deliver the keynote address on the subject Marketing and Public Relations; Larry Nighswander of the Cincinnati Post, who will offer participants A Fresh Look through the Viewfinder, and Rick Leckner, a radio traffic broadcaster and columnist for The Gazette, who will demonstrate the art of Building a Press Kit for Guaranteed Results.

In response to increasing concern about ethical dilemmas in public relations, Monty Berger, president of Berger & Associates, a public relations firm, will lead a discussion of Ethics in Public Relations.

Rapidly changing field

The objectives of the program include updating the skills of PR professionals and other centre personnel in this rapidly changing area and developing a network so that ideas and information can be shared. Access to new technology, including a 3-hour hands-on desktop publishing workshop, and developments in all the communications media, will be explored.

Host and chairman of the institute is Sherry Stein, director of public relations at the Y. She is working with Maurice Nayer, executive director, to prepare programs and hospitality for participants.

The JWB/JCC Public Relations Institute is one of a series of JWB training seminars and institutes designed for JCC personnel in a variety of specialized areas, including health, physical education and recreation, computers, management, membership, marketing, and Jewish educational programming.

JWB is the leadership network of and central agency for 275 Jewish Community Centres, YM-YWHAs and camps in the U.S. and Canada, serving more than 1 million Jews.

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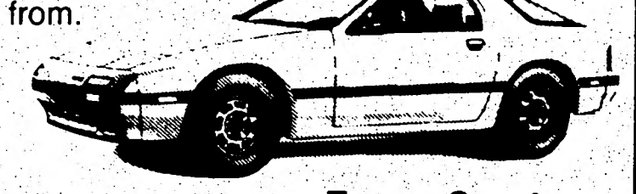

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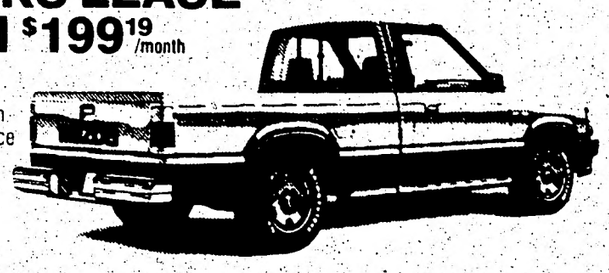

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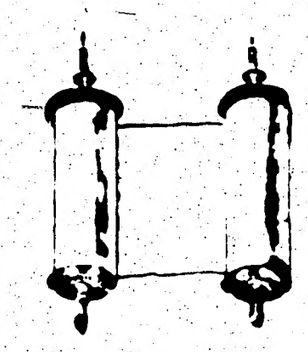
Organizations and People



sparks from the torah

By
RABBI MEIR URI GOTTESMAN

Parshat Vayigash

A Jew must have courage — to speak out when necessary, but not to bow to the mob either.

A group of congregants approached Reb Pinchas Menachem of Pilz and demanded that he speak out against a fellow rabbi who was doing things they disapproved of. "It's your responsibility!" they argued.

Answered Reb Pinchas: "I don't understand what you want. A person like myself, who has no complaints against my own misdeeds, even though I have so many of them, should start complaining about someone else?"

* * *

The world is full of complaints and bickering.

Why? Are we a city of sourpusses, bad people? With so many fine neshamas walking the street? Never! The problem is . . . communication!

We don't understand each other.

Consider . . . Joseph confronted his brothers after 22 years. They had wronged him, and now he wanted to test them. He framed the youngest brother Benjamin, took him hostage, and waited to see the results.

Judah, the king of the brothers, argued with Joseph. Take me — and let him go. I am stronger, I am worth more.

Joseph refused.

The parsha begins . . . "Vayigash ailuv Yehudah . . . And Judah drew close to him (Joseph) and said, O my lord, let thy servant . . . speak a word in my lord's ears. . . ." (Breshis 11:18)

Strange . . . Judah proceeds to repeat the very same things he had spoken just before! What was he adding? And why did he have to speak into Joseph's ears? Was he deaf?

But — explains the Ituray Torah — all the time that Judah had been speaking to Joseph, the words had gone through an interpreter. Judah was suspicious — maybe the problem was that Joseph was not getting the real message! What was said is one thing. The way it was being understood and explained was something else.

Many hatreds start from too many "interpreters." People mix into relationships, into friendships and business deals and say: "Do you know what so and so said about you, about this deal?"

"What!?" screams the listener. "He said that! I'll tell you something about him!" And there's an explosion of animosity.

Almost everyone is good. We all try to get by this hard life on earth. We need love, we need money, we need faith, we need good health, we need . . . just to be left alone to go about our business.

"Kee ha'meilitz baynosam . . . There was an interpreter in the way." When we deal with a person face to face, straight, many rifts and hatreds can be healed.

* * *

A forgiving heart brings good health.

The clever Reb Aizel Charif was asked: "Why is it that wealthy people are quick to give charity to poor disabled people, but not to poor scholars?"

Answered Reb Aizel: "The wealthy are afraid they may someday become poor and disabled also. But they have no worries about becoming poor scholars."

It's a good world. We have to relax and enjoy it. There's no room for hate. Shabbat Shalom.

Promises to work for minorities

India native heads rights group

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

The Ontario Human Rights Commission has a new chief commissioner and an increased budget to help it fight discrimination more effectively.

Ontario Citizenship Minister Gerry Phillips recently announced that Raj Annad, a distinguished lawyer and community activist, will become chief commissioner replacing Canon Borden Purcell effective Jan. 1, 1988.

Anand, a 32-year-old lawyer, was born in New Delhi, India. He has specialized in human rights, labor and litigation law and has published several articles on the rights of the disabled as well as lecturing at Osgoode Hall's bar admission course.

"Anand has a high-level of expertise in the human rights field," Phillips said. "As a legal writer, he already has made a significant contribution to current thinking in the critical area of equality rights."

Anand said he views the role of chief commissioner as an advocate for the rights of minority groups, the handicapped and women and that his first priority would be to improve the procedures for settling human rights complaints.

To help the OHRC achieve this goal, Phillips announced a series of measures designed to strengthen the commission's ability to enforce the Human Rights Code.

As an initial measure, Phillips said, the government will increase the commission's budget by at least $1 million to allow it to deal more effectively with individual acts of discrimination and to begin the process of fighting systemic discrimination.

To make the OHRC more independent of the provincial government, Phillips said that as of Jan. 1, the commission's executive director will no longer report to the deputy minister of citizenship, but only to the chief commissioner.

Raj Anand

In addition, the commission's offices — now located in two buildings — will be brought together in a larger non-ministry location within the next two months. Other measures include improving the commission's policy, research and communications capacities to meet increasing demands.

Phillips also took time to pay tribute to Purcell, saying that Ontario has seen substantial improvement in human rights protection during his stewardship [CJN Dec. 17].

The minister said it was appropriate that a new chief commissioner was being named on Human Rights Day (Dec. 10) since Ontario has played a leadership role in the development of human rights in Canada.

"We must never become oblivious to the sorry condition of human rights in certain places around the globe," Phillips said. "Nevertheless, it is important for us to collectively reflect upon and mark some of the positive steps we have taken to bring us closer to the achievements of true equality here at home.

"December 10 is an appropriate day for such reflection," he added. "It is a day to remember that the violation of individual rights is not simply a moral issue. It is a legal wrong which demands a legal remedy, whether in South Africa, in the East Bloc nations, in Latin America or anywhere in the world."

Diverse options for child care

TORONTO —

If Ottawa's new national child care plan is to succeed it will have to work closely with all interested parties, says Barbara McDougall, federal minister responsible for the status of women.

McDougall said at a recent breakfast meeting of the Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women that the new $5.4 billion program will be a partnership with the provinces, who have the constitutional responsibility for the delivery of child care services, municipalities, social service agencies, neighborhood groups, employers and unions.

However the "ultimate" partners are parents, McDougall said. "Theirs is the ultimate choice of the best care possible for their children."

Introduced in Parliament by Health and Welfare Minister Jake Epp, the child care program will be phased in over seven years, and is expected to almost double the number of licenced day care spaces to 400,000.

It includes a $3.1 billion for a new Canada Child Care Act which will allow provinces to help build and expand child care centres plus help cover those centres' operating costs and two new tax measures worth $2.3 billion which are expected to benefit almost 75% of families with pre-school aged children.

As well, the federal government is establishing a $100 million special initiatives fund which will give priority to practical proposals designed to meet child care needs and to test innovative approaches to providing child care services.

"Our child care strategy acknowledges that there is no single solution which can effectively respond to the diverse and changing child care needs of Canadian families," McDougall said. "For this reason, we have offered Canadians a balanced mix of initiatives."

Barbara McDougall

By introducing a national child care plan, she said, the government has put child care on the same level as health care and pensions as a social policy priority. As well as committing $5.4 billion over the next seven years, the minister said, the government will provide another $1 billion annually after that to support child care in Canada.

"This strategy was developed on the basis of both current and future needs," she said. "It will allow Canadian families a wider range of choices about the care their children receive. Its benefits to women will be significant, whether they go into the paid labor force or stay home to care for their children."

At the moment, it is estimated that 64% of all Canadian women between the ages of 20 and 64 are in the labor force.

Randy Spiegel, senior planning associate for Toronto Jewish Congress, told The Canadian Jewish News that while it is too early to tell if the program will go far enough, TJC welcomes any move to increase child care space and broaden access to such services.

At the moment there are only a handful of non-profit Jewish day care programs serving the community, including a program at the Jewish Community Centre's northern branch which started this past September. Similar programs are expected to start at the JCC's other branches in September 1988. — **J.R.**

Youth mission planned for June

TORONTO —

The United Israel Appeal is accepting applications for it 3rd annual Youth to Youth Mission to Israel, June 29-July 20.

Up to 15 students will take off for a 3-week tour of Israel that will include work on community projects and a stay with families of Or Yehuda, a Project Renewal town. They will also tour the country along with youngsters from Or Yehuda

Applicants must be between 16-18-years-old and must reside in communities twinned with Or Yehuda: Hamilton, London, Windsor, Halifax and the smaller communities of Ontario and the Atlantic region.

The size of the group will range from 10-15 and participants will be partly subsidized by UIA Canada.

For more information, contact Barney Harris or Eli Rubenstein, United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc., 4600 Bathurst St.#315, Willowdale, Ont., M2R 3V3 or telephone (416) 636-7655.

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Organizations and People

"Unfair assessment of Jewish community leadership"

2 TJC volunteers refute Elaine Kahn's column

By
GLENNIE LINDENBERG
and LINDA KAHN

We found the article by Elaine Kahn in your Nov. 19 edition to be both misleading and an unfair assessment of leadership in the Jewish community.

We are young women holding positions of responsibility in Toronto Jewish Congress and United Jewish Appeal.

(Lindenberg is co-chairman of UJA/TJC's New Leadership Council and Linda Kahn — no relation to Elaine Kahn — chairs TJC's Community Development of the Human Resources Committee.)

Given that our roles involve us in the future of voluntarism and community leadership, we could not be silent.

The author raised two points in her commentary: first, a survey about communal leadership, and second, the pathway to leadership. The survey was neither authorized nor even contemplated by the officers of Toronto Jewish Congress or Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region.

It was, unfortunately, an ill-conceived initiative by a single person, but in any democratic organization these things sometimes happen and are best forgotten, as most people who received it simply did. So why attempt to embarrass and discredit an entire communal structure because of it?

It is the second point that is even more disconcerting.

The notion that access to leadership positions is dependent on family wealth and the "right connections" simply does not reflect practice. Like the author, we have each spent several years as volunteers in the Jewish community, initially in the Business and Professional Women's Network of UJA.

Yet looking at us, and so many of our volunteer colleagues, in light of the selection criteria Elaine Kahn perceives as the gates to the corridors of power, we cannot imagine how we got here — our families are proud but not "prominent" givers to UJA; we went to non-profit camps (perhaps with the "wrong" people, who 20 years later are still our friends); our choice of schools and travelling companions to Israel were similarly non-illustrious. Some of our peers might be considered the "right" people, but they have learned that with visibility comes responsibility in this community and have fully earned their stripes.

Our experience is that our communal organizations are increasingly reflecting the changing face of Toronto Jewry. In TJC's Leadership Development program this year, 65% of the participants were born outside Toronto; and the program is gender balanced.

Looking more broadly at the executive of TJC, that body is structured specifically so as to represent a cross-section of the social, economic, religious and special interest aspects of Toronto's Jewish population. Moreover, in recruiting for policy and program development committees, the key is to find people with a variety of talents and perspectives; people who understand that the community's best interest must always take precedence over individual agendas; people who are proud to be part of that process.

It is difficult to say these things and sound immodest, but one does learn quickly that in communal life, as in professional life, decision-making responsibility comes with, and continually requires, hard work, the commitment of time and energy, careful follow-up — and a demonstrated desire to work within the system and build it rather than tear it down, which is so easy.

Even after seven years, the learning is every bit as exciting as the leading. But in that time, we have witnessed the increased empowerment of young leaders, especially women, in this community; and we have watched the existing structure embrace this change with support and encouragement.

This progression, as in all of life, had been gradual and has been based on mutuality and respect. The essence of community work, by its very nature, is consensual. The best news is, of course, that it is also fun, nurturing, educational and brings with it new friends and wonderful experiences.

What we hear at the Lipa Green Building are the sounds of discussion and debate that are full and frank. What we see is a community structure that is growing and changing, one that is increasingly responsive to the emerging needs of its volunteers and the community it serves.

We would encourage the involvement of anyone reading this, whatever their background, who feels that they could make a positive contribution to such an environment. We are confidently predicting that, in so doing, they will gain much more than they give and that their efforts will be much appreciated. (To learn more, just call Lil at 635-2883, Ext. 111.)

The challenge to our organization is clear: to meet the human service needs of Jews and to maintain open and welcome doors to all who want a meaningful forum for their self-expression as Jews.

The challenge to volunteers must be equally clear: to learn by doing and to maintain a common goal — the welfare of the special community in which we live.

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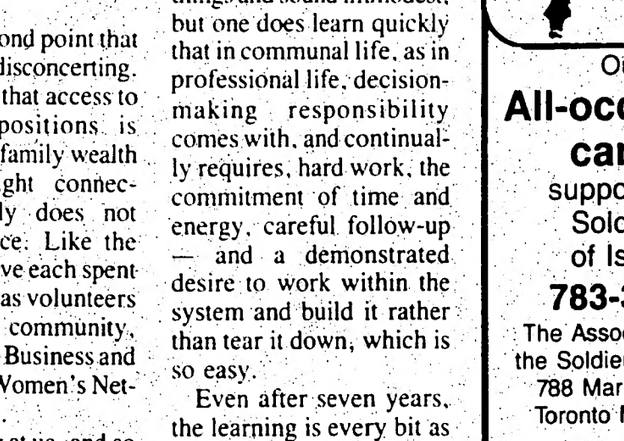

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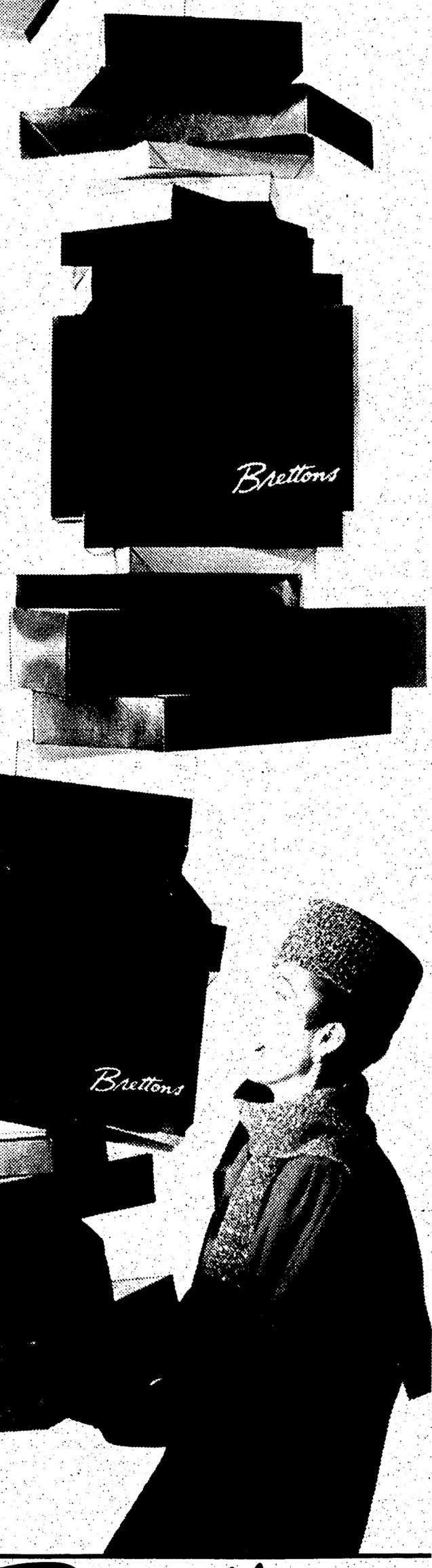

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Organizations and People

Grafstein tells B'nai B'rith lodge:

Passivity the wrong strategy in turbulent world

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —
The world is going through "a tremendous period of change" during which Jews must remain vigilant to see that minority rights are safeguarded, Senator Jerry Grafstein said recently.

Jews must exercise that vigilance in Canada as well, since the Meech Lake accords and the government's refugee bill threaten to affect rights we've come to expect, the senator said.

Speaking to a meeting of the Aaron Hart lodge of B'nai B'rith Canada, of which he was a founding member, Grafstein said Jews must be "hypersensitive to a diminution of the Charter that affects minority rights."

He said the Meech Lake agreement "would deny the priority that (former Prime Minister Pierre) Trudeau did in putting the Charter first."

Grafstein, who was appointed to the senate in 1984, said he was disappointed in the behavior of "some comfortable Jews" who exhibit the same attitude to Tamil and Sikh refugees that people once displayed to Jewish refugees.

And he pointed to the comments of a prominent Christian who, in the aftermath of the October stock crisis, attributed the crash to a substitution of greed for Christian values.

Grafstein said he saw in that comment echoes of other statements from the past when Jews were blamed for economic upheavals and where right wing leaders said Christian values were being replaced with the "Jewish value of greed."

Examining attitudes to Jews in a variety of countries around the world, Grafstein found disturbing examples of overt anti-semitism:

• In Japan, where there are very few Jews, a recent best seller talks about Jews turning people around the world against Japan.

• In the Soviet Union, an official anti-Zionist group is sponsored by the state while General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev says Refuseniks aren't allowed to emigrate because they've had access to strategic information.

• In France, Jean Marie La Pen, a prominent right wing politician, denies the Holocaust.

Also disturbing is the recent refusal of the New Brunswick attorney-general to prosecute an author of anti-Jewish books because the law is weak (CJN Dec. 17).

What can Jews do?

They must make their concerns known and not be passive, Grafstein said. History can repeat itself but only if we as Jews let it happen.

Senator Jerry Grafstein (centre) recently addressed members of the Aaron Hart Lodge of B'nai B'rith. With him are his wife, Carole, and lodge president Joe Varadi.

Diverse views increase strain

TORONTO —
The proposal to change the Law of Return in Israel so that conversions by Conservative or Reform rabbis are not recognized is putting a tremendous strain on relations between the Diaspora and Israel, a writer for the Jerusalem Post said here recently.

In addition to the "Who is a Jew?" situation, there are differences between Diaspora leaders and the Israel government on whether Soviet Jews on exit visas to Israel should be allowed to go to North America instead, according to Calev Ben David.

He spoke to a gathering under the auspices of Toronto Telem, the Movement for Zionist Fulfilment.

Two articles that appeared on the same day in prominent U.S. dailies last year illustrate the gulf between two prevailing attitudes about Israel-America relations, Ben David said.

One, by Jacob Nusner, a historian at a university in Providence, Rhode Island, said that America is a better place than Israel for Jews. The other, by Shlomo Avineri, an Israeli intellectual leftist and ardent Zionist, said the reaction of American Jews to the Jonathan Pollard spy case proves that they are living in fear.

Ben David said he does not agree with Nusner's viewpoint but that it represents the viewpoint of an increasing section of American Jewry.

The Jerusalem Post writer said the "Who is a Jew?" question is on the verge of being resolved against the wishes of the Conservative and Reform groups in U.S. and Canada.

The last time it came up for a vote in the Knesset it was defeated only because three members of Likud broke party ranks and party discipline to vote against the measure. Likud supports Halachic conversions as part of the Law of Return.

Ben David covers the police beat for a local news supplement of the Post, and commented that he is probably the only police reporter anywhere in the world who spends a lot of time interviewing yeshiva students and professors instead of muggers.

The native New Yorker said he made aliya to pursue his Jewish identity, adding that "Israel is a good alternative to the materialistic way of life that I had growing up on Long Island," he said.

Prior to joining the Post staff, he wrote freelance articles for Israel Scene and publications abroad. He was the Israel coordinator for Telem for six months, a job taken over by Sharon Herman of Toronto.

Telem is interested in hearing from people thinking about aliya. Sarah Byck, Telem's Mazkira (head), can be reached at 533-9705, and another contact is Ilan Salamon, 782-3742.

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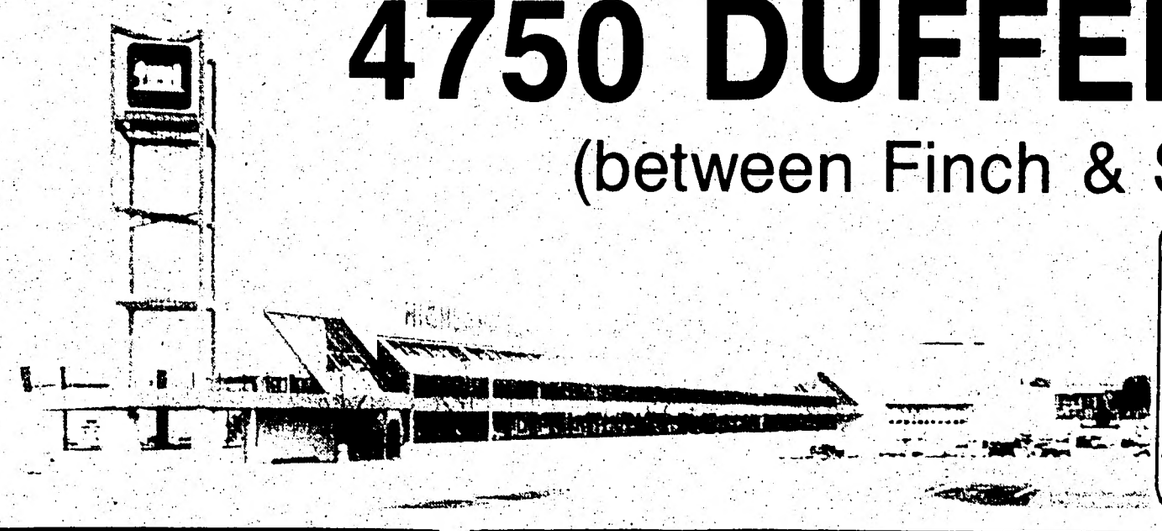

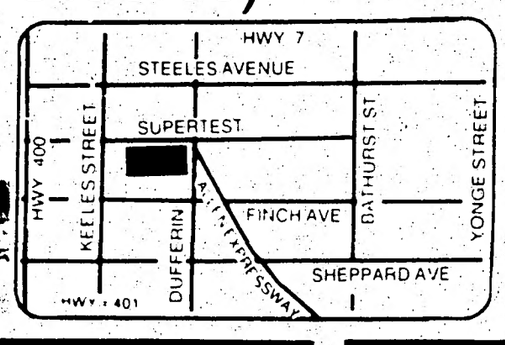

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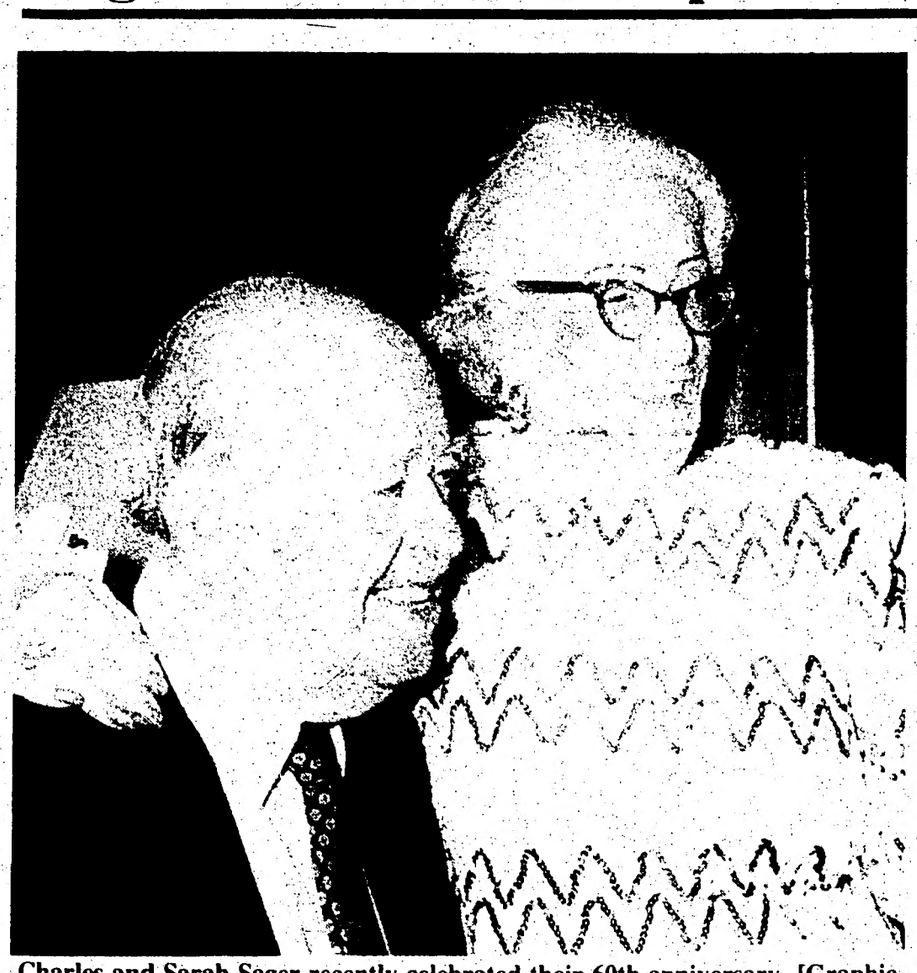
Organizations and People



Charles and Sarah Sager recently celebrated their 60th anniversary. [Graphic Artists photo]

Couple dispense wisdom after 60 years together

TORONTO —

It was a time for Charles and Sarah Sager of North York to bask in the warm glow of remembrance as they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with family and friends at the home of their son, Allen Sager.

It was also a time for Charles and Sarah, both 80, and both Toronto born and bred, to reminisce and to dispense some homespun wisdom on ways of living a long and happy life.

Charles, who gets in thrice-weekly games of raquetball at the Northern branch of the Jewish Community Centre, said physical activity is the key to longevity.

"I really recommend exercise, no matter how old you are," he said to attentive friends and family members crowded into the living room of Allen's attractive North York home.

Plain cooking

Sarah, however, said the secret was plain cooking — specifically, she joked, "no frying".

Both Sarah and Charles emphasized the importance of mutual understanding between husband and wife as a reason for long life and good health.

"Don't stop your husband if he wants to go out; let him go out!" Sarah quipped.

Charles, who attended Toronto's Bolton Business College, founded Casco Steel Sales, a firm which made furniture from steel tubing. He later went into the waste disposal business.

In addition to Allen, the Sagers have one other son, Calvin. Charles and Sarah have eight grand-children, all of whom, along with Allen's wife, Marian, and Calvin's wife, Rochelle, were in attendance at the anniversary celebration.

Synagogue exec looks back

25 years of reminiscences

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO —

Myer Dorn has no regrets about following his heart 25 years ago.

That was when Saul Sigler, president of the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue called to say that the position of executive director was available. Dorn was warned by his friends in Windsor that "this position is not known to have longevity."

Dorn said that he was told that in most synagogues, people remained in such a position for only a year or so — and he would probably return to Windsor in the near future.

"But my meetings with Meyer W. Gasner, of blessed memory, convinced me to accept the invitation to join the staff of this great congregation."

Today, more than a quarter of a century later, Dorn said that his arrival at Shaarei Shomayim in 1962 was "a providential event."

At that time, the synagogue was located on St. Clair Ave. West.

"When I arrived, plans were being made for a new magnificent shul at 470 Glencairn Ave.

Throughout the first few years, Dorn was involved with negotiations with the local neighbors, arrangements for the demolition of the two houses on the site and daily conference with architect Ben Kaminker.

"Ben's religious fervor was being transferred permanently into mortar, bricks, stone and wood-work." The building was completed in 1966.

Myer Dorn, seen with his wife Laura, celebrates 25 years as executive director of the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

Looking back at his long association with "the largest Orthodox synagogue in North America," Dorn said he has been fortunate to serve with three outstanding rabbis, Walter S. Wurzburger, Emanuel Forman and Henry Hoschander as well as cantors Nathan T. Adler and Harold Klein.

Working with 12 presidents, he said, he has watched the membership of the synagogue grow from 500 families in 1962 to more than 1,300 today, "and still growing."

But Dorn said that the "highlight in my life was meeting and marrying Laura (Petegorsky Shopsowitz), and joining our two families together. We now have three grandchildren — and life has been good to us."

Throughout the years, the personable and competent director of the shul's many activities said that he values the many friendships he has made at the synagogue.

"Men like Samuel J. Sable, a past president, who has been my confidant over the years, have enriched my life. I admire Sam and the other leaders of the synagogue who have played a significant role not only in the synagogue but in leadership positions throughout the world."

Dorn added that along with the beautification of the building, attention is constantly given to the public religious worship and the needs of the individual members. It is said that Dorn knows most of the members of the synagogue by name — a tribute to a man who has made his work a labor of love.

Dorn commented that he is "optimistic that our shul will continue to thrive. There is a great spiritual life in the congregation and we have a growing number of young people active in the shul."

He noted that the leadership pendulum of the community is swinging back from a predominantly secular orientation to a more religious one.

"People are hungry today for an authentic expression of Judaism which is what, in essence, Shaarei Shomayim is all about."

The first 25 years have been wonderful years, Dorn said, "and I look forward to many new and exciting projects in the future."

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Music brings generations together

Young and old Inter-Link voices in harmony

By
WENDY ROSEN

TORONTO —

Close Harmony is the physical manifestation of a New York music teacher's struggle to blend the dulcet voices of seniors with the latent tones of youth.

Arlene Symons was here recently to lead a 1-day workshop for Inter-Link, the Toronto-based organization founded this summer by Selma Edelstone based on the New Yorker's program, held at Baycrest Centre's Joseph E. and Minnie Wagman Centre.

Edelstone worked together with Mel Shipman, held of North York Board of Education's intergenerational program, and Jacqueline Edelson, director of the Wagman Centre, to launch the program this past September at Baycrest School and the centre.

The month-long teachers' strike scuttled plans for a December concert but one will be held in the spring. The intergeneration choir boasts 34 children and 24 seniors — "we could use some more older adults," Edelstone said.

Award winning film

In addition to Baycrest Centre's activity directors, representatives of the Ontario Arts Council and the provincial government, which are both considering making a grant, attended the program. Teachers and principals from East York and Toronto boards of education were on hand to hear how the program was being implemented in North York.

Symons said that although music is the common denominator, the New York project survives because of the relationships that young and old form which overcomes stereotypes which both groups affix to each other.

This is best exemplified by the 1982 Academy Award-winning documentary entitled Close Harmony which kicked off the program. It clearly shows the development of a close rapport between young and old, and how each group through friendship changes its attitude towards the other and to a lesser extent towards itself.

Symons, who's in her late 40s, said when she first began teaching music at an elementary school.

During her maternity leave years ago, she decided in her spare time to pick up extra cash by teaching a choral group at a seniors centre run by National Council of Jewish Women.

Arlene Symons

Symons said she was always struck that the only ones who ever attended the performances were other seniors.

"I didn't see children or young adults and it struck me how isolated our senior citizens are despite all their wonderful programs."

From then on, she always invited children from a nearby school to attend the performances. (When she worked at the elementary school, she always invited older adults at a nursing home to attend performances.)

At one concert, the seniors' choral group was performing a contata which had many characters.

"A friend of mine taught at a school in Brooklyn and in secret I taught the kids to sing the finale. So just before the finale, the kids stood up opposite the seniors and both groups sang. The school principal came — I guess my friend dragged him along — and he hired me on the spot."

She agreed to work for him but only if she could work four days a week and have the fifth for her seniors group — she didn't want to give up her 7-year investment.

"I decided that eventually I would put both groups together — I know it was crazy in those days. The principal said I could try it. We did it crudely the first time; both groups came together at the last minute to learn an opening and closing song — in between, each group did their own repertoire.

"It was fabulous because it was the first. It was so exciting to watch something in the making," she said.

"The parents were behind me 100% — that's where you get power in a private school. Everyone loved it — except the principal and his right-hand gal who hated it the most."

She said that her evaluation time was soon after and expecting a "glowing report" based on the success of the program, was told that there was no spot on the schedule for the choir.

"I got up and quit the job so he put the chorus back in."

Symons, who changed schools the year after the film won the award, decided that "we didn't milk the projects we can do" which coincide with the choir. The first decision was that the two groups would come together more despite the logistics problem.

Together with one or two teachers, she devised the pen pal system to overcome the possible scheduling nightmare emanating from physically having the two groups in the same place. Letters would add drama and build up the anticipation which would culminate in a meeting.

Sharing their memories

On dress rehearsal day, the two groups would meet for the first time. In the morning the performance would be blocked out, then lunch followed by discussion groups.

"The most wonderful things came out in the letters. The seniors just wanted to share their memories."

She urged Inter-Link planners to begin the letter program in a structural atmosphere. "Seniors have a new life and get annoyed when letters come too fast, so space it out. Make sure the letters are legible and understandable but don't correct the content, grammar or spelling."

Symons said to "work the process correctly" and not to rush things.

"It takes a while to become a chorus not just a good chorus," she said, adding that planners should start small and ensure that there is discipline — especially on the part of seniors' — before the separate elements come together.

"This is a people project not just a musical one. They try their best and that's all you can expect. If they get up and do a dynamite job, they get positive feedback and this success motivates them to do even better."

She said her choir in New York boasts 75 youths and 85 seniors "with a waiting list — it just kills me to turn away people. The success of the group has suddenly given the older adult a new role in the family."

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Organizations and People

Emigration up in 1987

Soviets are ready to allow more Jews out: UIA

By
BELINDA SILBERMAN

KINGSTON, Ont. — Soviet authorities appear ready to ease emigration restrictions on Jews, says United Israel Appeal of Canada's special emissary from Jerusalem.

About 7,500 Jews have left the Soviet Union since January and another 500 are expected to emigrate by the end of the year, Lt. Col. Yona Gazit said.

"This is more than the last five years put together," said the 41-year-old retired Israeli officer.

"For us this is a tremendous change and we should only hope that next year the figures will be much higher."

Gazit made the comments at the recent UIA of Canada Women's Division 12th annual campaign dinner here. About 50 people from Kingston's small close-knit Jewish community attended the gathering at the Seaforth Road home of Marjorie and Michael Feldman.

Gazit told the crowd that now more than ever funds are needed to help Jews get out of the Soviet Union and resettle in Israel.

Jews face fees and other expenses when attempting to leave the Soviet Union, he said.

For example, for a Jew to be allowed to leave the Soviet Union he must first sign a refusal of Soviet citizenship. Upon doing so he is immediately charged an amount equivalent to four months' salary, Gazit said.

"Since we are talking about Refuseniks who have been out of a job for two, five, 10 or 15 years, we are talking about people who do not have that income. And if that is the price per capita, we can easily figure that the price per family is at least a year's income."

Other expenses occur when the applicant tries to vacate his state-owned apartment. To leave he must pay a refurbishing fee.

The applicant must also pay for exit visas and transportation out of the Soviet Union. The Jewish Agency assists in these efforts.

Later, the Jewish Immigrant Aid Service in North America and Jewish Agency in Israel help support and settle the new immigrants, he said.

This year the Jewish Agency's budget for absorption of new immigrants is $83 million (U.S.). The agency receives its funding from UIA and United Jewish Appeal.

Newcomers from places like the Soviet Union often stay in one of Israel's 41 absorption centres for periods ranging from six to 24 months during which time they can receive vocational training, medical aid and language instruction.

This year for the first time newcomers can also elect to "skip" these centres and immediately rent or buy an apartment in Israel.

If they want to rent, the agency, which has an overall budget this year of about $427 million (U.S.), helps pay for the first year and helps subsidize their rent for the next four years.

If they want to buy, it gives them a mortgage of up to $55,000 (U.S.) of which almost half is written off over a 5-year period.

Gazit said the recent increase in Soviet Jewry emigration is believed to be part of the glasnost policy of openness. Glasnost "means that the Soviets have run into such tremendous economic problems that they are ready to change their entire policy towards the West just so they can save themselves from going totally bankrupt," he said.

Gazit said Israel would like to take advantage of this easement in restrictions, noting there are three "very distinguished" groups of Jews still left in the Soviet Union.

One of these groups involves more than 200 Refusenik families who have been denied exit visas for more than 15 years.

Another group Israeli officials would like to see out includes people who have received permission to leave, but won't leave because other family members have been denied exit visas.

A third group has never been arrested or spent time in a camp, but still can't get out of the country. The most prominent of these people is Moscow physicist Alexander Lerner, 74, Gazit said.

Yet another group, whose members were known to be sent to Siberian prisons and labor camps, is believed to have been released, he said.

Israeli officials would also like to see the release of the Jewish community at large since many are being rapidly assimilated into Soviet society, he said.

In the 1950s and 1960s an estimated 3.5 million Jews lived in the Soviet Union and in the 1970s it was believed there were still about 2.5 million, he said.

But at a World Jewish Population Conference in October in Jerusalem, demographers concluded there are now between 1.5 and 1.6 million Jews in the Soviet Union, Gazit said.

However, other groups report different figures, according to Ben Prossin, director of the Committee for Soviet Jewry of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region.

Prossin said in an interview the Soviet government claims there are about 1.8 million Jews in the Soviet Union, while Jews around the world believe there are between 2.5 and 3 million of their brethern in Russia.

While no one knows the actual number, there are likely at least 2 million Jews still in the Soviet Union, Prossin said.

Nevertheless, Gazit said there are "huge" numbers of Jews being lost in the Soviet Union.

"We are speaking of almost 50% mixed marriages," Gazit said. "We are talking about up to 90% of the kids of those mixed marriages registering as non-Jews."

At the conclusion of the speeches, Women's Division campaign co-chairmen Linda Malinoff and Betty Siegel were showered with contributions to UIA of Canada.

This year's Kingston women's campaign resulted in a 24 per cent increase in contributions from last year's.

Barney Harris, UIA of Canada's national field director, praised the division for its fundraising efforts.

"I think that the number of people here is not only a compliment to our two chairmen Linda and Betty, but I think also to yourselves (the crowd).

"I know that the care and the concern is here," said Harris, who drove in from Toronto to attend the fund raising dinner.

While most of the guests were women, the dinner was also attended by Lorne Malinoff and Mort Berman, co-chairmen of UIA of Canada's men's campaign in Kingston.

After dinner guests chatted and leafed through photos taken by members of the community during recent trips to Israel.

The photos included snapshots of the Moshav Idan settlement near the Jordan border. Kingston's Jewish community recently began raising funds to build a pre-kindergarten daycare centre in the moshav. The project is being jointly carried out with UIA of Canada.

Among the many guests at a recent UIA of Canada campaign dinner in Kingston were (from left) Mort Berman, Lorne Malinoff, Betty Siegel, Linda Malinoff and Marjorie Feldman. [Belinda Silberman photo]

Day care centre for moshav

Kingston Jews aid settlers

KINGSTON, Ont. — Members of the small vibrant Jewish community here have opened their hearts to residents of Israel's Moshav Idan.

The Kingston group recently began raising funds to build an urgently-needed pre-kindergarten day care centre in the tiny pioneering Arava settlement in the Negev desert.

And soon they will begin exchanging letters, photos and visits with Moshav Idan inhabitants in an effort to develop close "person to person" relationships.

The novel project is being jointly carried out with United Israel Appeal of Canada.

"This is our community in Israel," said Lorne Malinoff, co-chairman of UIA of Canada's Men's Division campaign here.

"This is our 'family' in Israel. We know when we go there they know us and we know some of them.

"They're going to know what's going on here in Kingston and what it's like to be a Jew in a small town in Canada and we're going to know their experiences in the Arava in Israel."

Kingston's Jewish community adopted the $300,000 day care centre project in Moshav Idan after Malinoff and his wife Linda went on an 11-day small communities study mission to Israel last July.

The Kingston couple were joined by eight other Canadians including representatives from the Jewish communities of St. Catharines and Kitchener, Ont. and Saskatoon, Sask.

The mission was led by David Steinberg, chairman of UIA of Canada's Ontario Region, and Barney Harris, UIA of Canada's national field director.

Almost as soon as the Malinoffs saw Moshav Idan they knew they had found the right community for their project.

The Malinoffs were also keen on the project for Kingston's Jewish community because it wasn't as costly as some of the other projects they considered.

"We didn't pick this project just because it had everything we wanted," Malinoff told members of Kingston's Jewish community at a recent campaign dinner held by UIA of Canada's Women's Division.

When the Malinoffs returned to Canada they and other mission members met with UIA of Canada executive members to discuss and agree on the projects.

The couple later presented the day care centre proposal at an October meeting of UIA of Canada leadership in Kingston and it was unanimously approved.

Malinoff says it will take the Kingston Jewish community about three years to raise funds for Moshav Idan's day care centre.

However, construction of the centre, which will be built from prefabricated materials, will likely begin in about six months.

About 40 youngsters between the ages of three and five will be cared for in the centre when it opens in 1989.

Betty Siegel, campaign co-chairman of UIA of Canada's Women's Division here, told the local campaign dinner guests that there is a great need for the day care centre.

At present, the settlement's approximately 25 youngsters in the pre-kindergarten age group are being cared for in small groups in converted houses.

"Because they don't have a day care centre they have to divide the different age groups all through the moshav community," Siegel said.

"Wherever they can find a room they put the children. So they dash from one place to another to pick up these kids at 12.30 and bring them home for lunch. They don't work in the afternoon because it gets too hot."

Siegel visited the settlement in November while attending a Hadassah convention in Israel. She was joined by five other residents including her husband, Av, and Kingston Hadassah members Dorothy Shanas, Sally Goldstein, Rita Intrator and Muriel Rose.

Kingston residents Joe Ginsberg, a retired businessman, and Mort Berman, co-chairman of the local UIA of Canada's men's campaign, also visited Moshav Idan in late October. The two men were in Israel to take part in a special 3-week program as volunteers in the army.

Siegel said Moshav Idan inhabitants face many harsh conditions and difficulties.

The residents have enough problems just trying to grow crops in sandy soil under conditions of sweltering heat and no shade, without worrying about being near enemy territory, Siegel told the approximately 50 people at the dinner.

"It takes a person of a great deal of courage to be able to live like that. These people must have a fantastic pioneering spirit to be able to stay."

In fact, 11 families have already left the settlement, she said. Six melted into other communities and five left Israel altogether.

The moshav grows tomatoes, green onions, mangoes, corn, melons and avocados. But it can't export its produce because it can't afford the wrappers required for items like tomatoes.

"They have to depend very much on what they can sell locally," Siegel said.

But the harsh life also has its rewards, she said.

"It's fulfilling if the crops come up," she said. "And the things they have to do to get the crops to grow is unbelievable. They have huge frameworks which they cover with plastic. They look like minature hangers. You think they're going to have airplanes coming in."

In fact, a small plane does fly into the settlement twice a week to bring supplies, transport an ill resident to a hospital or pick up a resident who wants to visit Jerusalem or Tel Aviv.

Barney Harris, UIA of Canada's national field director, said Kingston's project at Moshav Idan is "another innovative UIA development to twin the small communities of the Ontario region with communities in Israel.

The Kingston Jewish community's contributions to the project will be over and above its regular contributions to UIA of Canada, he said.

Malinoff said the campaign for the project is already doing well with 99% of the people he has approached donating an average of between 30% and 50% above their regular UIA of Canada contributions. — **B.S.**

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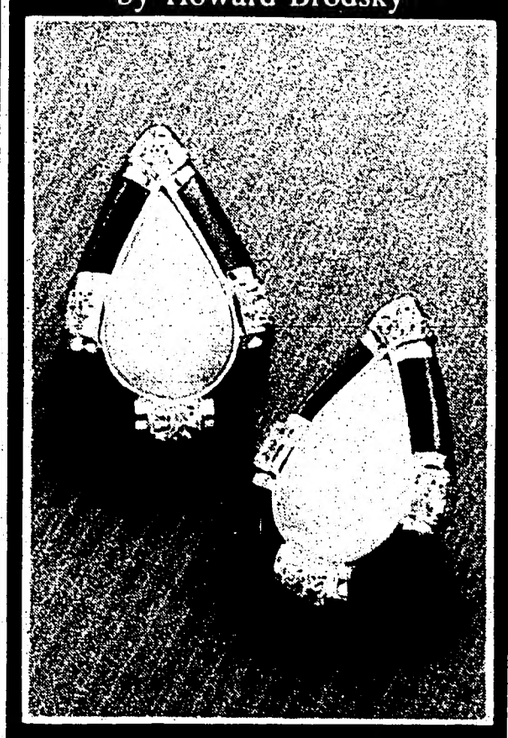

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Literature, lectures informative

Stress on hard-sell mars Woman's Show

By
MARIE MOORE

Loaded to the limit with pen and paper, wearing comfortable walking shoes and layered clothes that would adjust to any temperature they threw at me, I was prepared to see it all at The Woman's Show.

Dodging heavy traffic, waiting 15 minutes in a parking lot line up and trekking through an endless stream of 6-inch deep puddles, did not deter me. I am woman, I am strong.

It was promoted as an all-inclusive event — the kind of exhibition of which women dream. Where else could one locate exciting, upbeat fashion shows, interesting demonstrations, product sampling, informative lectures and a symposium of experts in booths representative of subjects A through Z.

After consulting an impressive program, I discovered that the 3 p.m. fashion show was about to begin. Without a sidelong glance, I hustled to the stage area. No problem claiming a seat here. Thirteen women — seven of them wearing exhibitors' passes and two fellow members of the press — were scattered across the front rows of 300 otherwise empty seats.

I caught the eye of one newspaper writer and motioned a greeting. She yelled back across the desert of vacant chairs, "We've been here since noon and this is the biggest crowd I've seen yet."

My stomach rumbled and ground to a halt. The omen.

Perhaps it's a little unfair to judge the entire event by my opening day experience, but first impressions do tend to be lasting ones.

The kindest summation I heard after that Canadian designer fashion segment, is a quote from one of Toronto's leading publicists. She said, "These clothes are so old, they were available at Winner's two months ago."

The same black velvet and lace collection we thrilled to in last April's Wayne Clark show was rehashed for the umpteenth time — mind you, the Wayfarer sunglasses which accessorized his elegant evening wear, were a definite first.

Other nostalgic selections included Kuchne's black rosettes, Winston Kong's jewel-toned gowns, Lida Baday's bell skirts and Mariola Mayer's multi-textured fabrications.

Enough said. After the show, I decided to try a walkabout. Beauty and hair products were well represented by several prominent retailers and manufacturers. People were invited to participate in hair, makeup and style makeovers with the experts from Monroe, Maybelline and Edith Serei.

Informative literature was available from the ministry of industry, trade and technology, ministry of tourism and recreation, Canada Employment and Immigration, Canadian Association of Women Executives and Entrepreneurs and Labour Canada Women's Bureau.

The Ontario Women's Directorate, Ontario ministry of labor, Handicapped Employment, Energy Mines and Resources Canada, Workers' Compensation Board and Solicitor General's Office for Employment Equity were also supportive of the Woman's Show and deserve full credit.

But for the most part, booths were designed to hard-sell a product. With the exception of those few who offered tasty samples or free magazines, complimentary coupons and recipes, strolling the aisles felt like a walk through a used car lot.

On a positive note, cooking demonstrations and lectures (at least the two I attended) were fun and informative.

The Pop 84 Fashion Show featured four extraordinary young dancers from the Denise Lester troupe and Gaza House handpainted oriental art on unique and contemporary garments.

Makeup and accessories for all three shows; Pop 84, Coatsport, and Toronto Life Fashion Magazine Presents.... — was provided by Linda McCormick.

Multi-media extravaganza is impressive

What happens when you combine the dynamic presence of Jeanne Beker, host of CityTV FashionTelevision with the outstanding credentials of Alayne Kato and Associates, add the most impressive lineup of runway models this city has to offer and stir with fabulous music?

It's the Vernon/Vernon Holiday/Cruise/Spring 88 Fashion Show/videotaping extravaganza.

As Jeanne Beker put it, "Vernon/Vernon has to be one of the best kept secrets in Toronto." Tucked away in the northwest corner of North York at 5050 Dufferin St., they offer a unique concept in custom image creation for today's modern woman.

The philosophy behind the business is based on an evolution of wardrobe through layering of color, shape and texture. Pieces flow from day to evening wear, flattering busy women in a color palette designed exclusively for each individual by the Vernon/Vernon color experts.

Accessories are the next step. Matching over-the-shoulder shawls, customized hats (complete with complementary trim), belts, jewelry and ties are all in stock at a massive manufacturer's showroom.

On location, clients are treated to a comfortable sofa, a fresh cup of coffee and a smile while they wind down and prepare for the sheer pleasure of a one-on-one wardrobe consultation by the persuasive but never intimidating staff.

Not only are one-of-a-kind pieces available, but customers can shop from a wide selection of standard cuts and materials, available for their inspection while they relax.

Luba Vernon, the designing force behind the label, shops abroad frequently in order to guarantee the latest textile treatments and seasonal shades.

Back to the show. More than 500 men and women, most of whom had been personally invited by Vernon/Vernon packed into the Metropolitan Toronto Convention Centre to witness the show and to be part of a fashion video.

Seventeen groups of clothes, presented in a 45-minute collection, were greeted with repeated applause.

Luba's English Garden treated us to fresh, cool wool and cotton sateen florals in spearmint and lilac prints. Cruisewear in tropical cotton gabardine, was layered in sea foam shades while Capri pants and midi sweaters were lightened with white and sunny yellow.

Boardroom basics included a multi-toned chameleon print combined with fuschia and gray; punctuated in black. Later, yellow and black coupled well, showing the confidence needed for today's power dressing.

Other favorites were: vivid paintbox prints cut in jackets, camisoles, tops and sweaters and a floral print in capuccino and midnight that set off cool wool dressing in deep coral-dyed barathea. Subtle and sensuous.

There were Italian silks, textured rayons, linens, brushed denim and delicate lace. Shimmering gold and sparkling silver, delicate pastels and neutrals. It was a selection that varied just enough to appeal to everyone, but not enough to offend. — **M.M.**

This youngster wears a jacket and slacks outfit by Andre Pasaman for Creations Pivione. The giraffe sweatshirt is by the same designer while the bubblegum outfit and crayon sweatshirt is by Carolyn Lorimer for Cazzies. All could be seen at the recent One-of-a-Kind Craft Show.

Quality of handcrafted styles makes them difficult to resist

Let's face it — producing top quality clothing is a true craft — so it's not difficult to understand why so many clothing labels were featured at the One-of-a-Kind crafts show, held recently at Toronto's Automotive Building.

Quite a few of these labels were from out of town — which added to their value — as people are not likely to encounter duplicates of them in a friend's closet. As a shopper, that's a plus that's hard to resist. That's probably why so few people showed the slightest sign of resistance as they bought.

Mary Morrison's Handweaving booth displayed rich colors and textures in tops, shirts, shawl vests and scarves. She's been weaving for 18 years and has travelled to Toronto for the show for the past four years. She received a great response and was pleased with the success of her label.

Circle Crafts arrived here from St. David's, Nfld. It brought a generous supply of fur-trimmed hoods on brightly-hued parkas; woven jackets, scarf and mitten sets and incredible bulky-knit sweaters. The outerwear was entered in the daily fashion shows, and was a big hit with the crowd.

Robert Pinard is from Ste. Anne du Lac, Que. His adorable nightshirts, flannel nighties, pyjamas and lounge sets were cuddly, colorful and cute. They are ideal for teenagers.

Jameez in a Jar got my vote for the ideal gift — they were original, affordable and practically styled. Be on the lookout for this unique item.

Sundown started when Julie Ganton noticed her babies' toes and fingers were getting too cold during their winter walks. She designed and sewed a down-filled bunting bag for her son, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Sundown now is retailing at The Village Kids, in Mississauga; Bottega Bimbi, 1990 Danforth Ave., Toronto; Kiddie Clads, Woodbridge; 'Brats,' Hamilton and 'Minimi,' Toronto.

In developing a complete line of down-filled snowsuits for kids, Ganton has added sizes newborn to 12, as well as mittens and hats to her original label. She just won Dupont's Best Childrens Skiwear Design in the Calgary by Design contest, held in honor of the Winter Olympics. While purchasing 3M thinsulate and reflective tape for the 1988 collection, she encountered the Magic Wagon on promotion, and was consequently invited by 3M to participate in it.

The Magic Wagon is actually a giant Winnebago that starts a nationwide trek in Montreal and travels to Calgary, hitting major cities and large ski-wear retailing outlets on the way. It's an outdoor parade — and the down-filled snowsuits are guaranteed to keep her representatives cozy.

On a more personal note, Ganton has to laugh as she admits her new adult Sundown garments are the result of "catching up to her sons." In order to enjoy their cold-weather activities for the duration ("sometimes hours and hours") she had to design a down-filled coat for herself.

New clothes are in the price range our market considers upscale — but, in fact, they're well-priced for down products. If keeping toasty warm all winter appeals to you, investigate Sundown. You won't be disappointed. — **M.M.**

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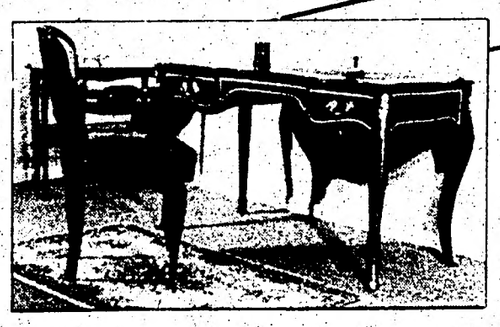

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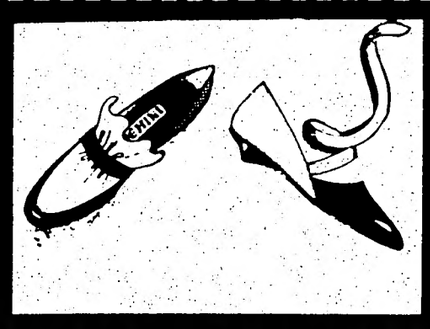

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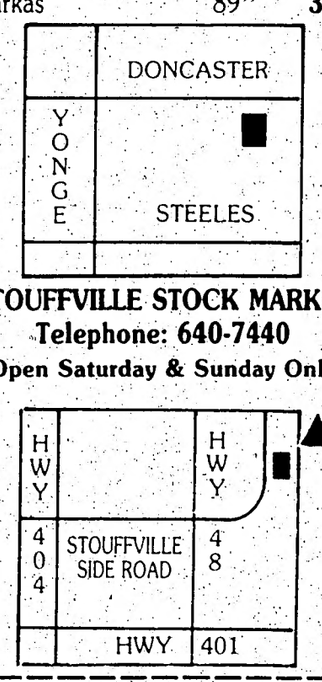

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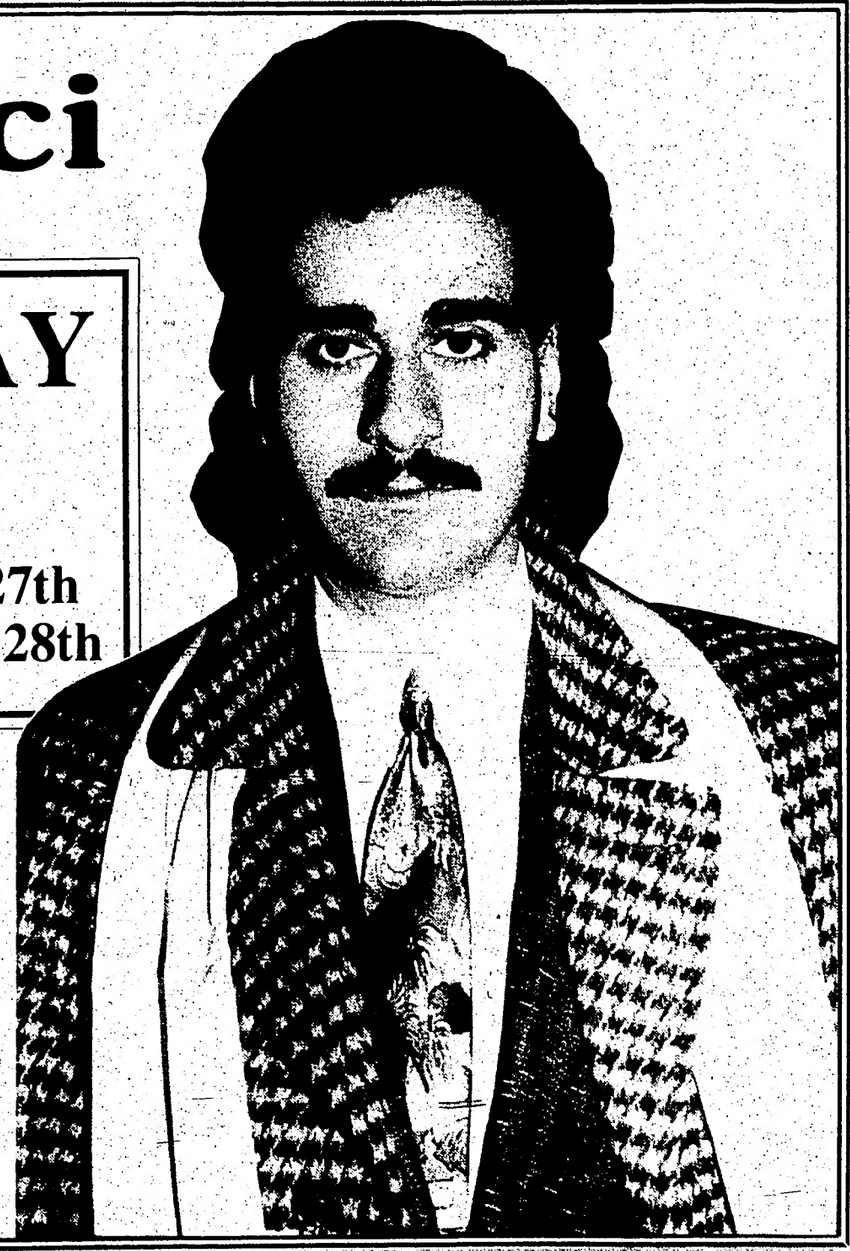

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Arts

Reputation began with Starr

Horseshoe still rocking at 40

By
BRUCE PARKINSON

Seen here are Richard Kruk (left) and Kenneth Sprackman.

TORONTO — While almost everything around it has gone upscale and nouvelle, the Horseshoe Tavern is still serving up hot, simple dishes of blues, country and rock after all these years.

The venerable Queen St. W. watering hole celebrated its 40th birthday recently with a 2-week long bash that attracted an enviable list of musicians.

The lineup, including Long John Baldry, blues virtuoso Roy Buchanan, Dave Mason, Sun Rhythm Section (Elvis's back-up band), Prairie Oyster and Bobby Bare, was a fitting representation of the type of entertainment that established the Horseshoe's no-nonsense, foot-stomping reputation.

That reputation began under the proprietorship of Jack Starr, who purchased the property in 1947, just at the time the Ontario government first began issuing lounge licences.

Even at that time the location had a colorful history. Beginning as a blacksmith's shop in 1861, the site was also home to a shoe store, an apparel shop and a fancy goods shop.

Starr ran the show for 29 years, and during that time everyone who was anyone in country music played at the Horseshoe.

The list of famous names includes Loretta Lynn, Waylon Jennings, Charlie Pride, Ronnie Prophet, Ian and Sylvia Tyson, Hank Williams Jr. and Stompin' Tom Connors, who was the subject of a memorable concert film shot in the bar.

After Starr's reign, the Horseshoe went through a series of incarnations, with entertainment ranging from folk to punk.

The punk phase, though short and ill-fated, brought to this city such future stars as The Police, Talking Heads and The Stranglers. It ended one night when a post-concert riot forced police to close the club.

In 1983, the bar was purchased by current owners, the X-L Boys Inc., a trio of entrepreneurs who are making a strong impact on the Toronto bar scene.

The X-L Boys are Richard Kruk, a former Metro police officer and owner of Crooks restaurant and bar on Front St., X-Ray Macrae, bar and record store owner, and Ken Sprackman, a Jewish Toronto-born businessman.

Sprackman began his career at his father Joseph's accounting firm. Since that time he has owned or managed a submarine sandwich shop, a Howard Johnson's franchise, a car dealership, and several bars. He was the secretary of the Oshawa chapter of B'nai B'rith for three years.

"I love to be with people," said Sprackman in an interview with The CJN. "I've always been in people-oriented businesses and the Horseshoe is no different."

Sprackman has been involved with bars uptown and downtown. He managed the club at the Hotel Isabella, another inner city landmark, for three years, then opened Scuffers at St. Clair and Yonge, followed by Durangos at Finch and Arrow Rd.

For suburbanites wary of entering the dangerous confines of downtown Toronto, Sprackman's answer to the question of which part of the city he would rather work in might be interesting.

"It's great downtown," he said. "The clientele is far more sophisticated and less uptight."

Sprackman said that in three years at the Isabella he never saw a fight of any consequence. "At Durangos, there was a fight of consequence every night," he said, noting one occasion in particular when a bar stool met his back in a very unfriendly manner.

A big music fan, Sprackman has the pleasure of deciding what acts will appear at the Horseshoe. He blissfully recalls a recent night during the 40th birthday celebrations when he sat in the dressing room chatting with Roy Buchanan and surprise guest Robbie Robertson.

"Here I am, sitting between two of the greatest guitarists in the world — is this a great job or what?"

A few years ago, Sprackman says he was a trim 185 pounds. After he "blossomed in the bar business" up to 220, he was told by a bouncer that he was becoming an "X-L boy." Sprackman asked what he meant, and the bouncer replied, "Look at the label on your sweatshirt — I'll bet it says X-L."

With X-Ray Macrae up around 300, Kruk a solid 200, and Sprackman weighing in at 220, the title seemed a natural one for their partnership.

Another partner, whose financial interest isn't great but who has a "heavy spiritual interest" in Crooks and the X-L Boys' newest venture, X-Rays, is comedian and actor Dan Ackroyd.

Ackroyd was in town recently to open X-Rays, which is just across the street and down the block a little from the Horseshoe.

Always a favorite among Toronto audiences and media, Ackroyd attracted a lot of attention to the opening and Sprackman said the restaurant and bar are "flourishing beyond my wildest imagination."

He calls Ackroyd "an extremely warm individual. He makes everyone feel special. It's not hard to see why he is a star."

Sprackman is a warm and outgoing individual himself. It's not hard to see why he is so successful.

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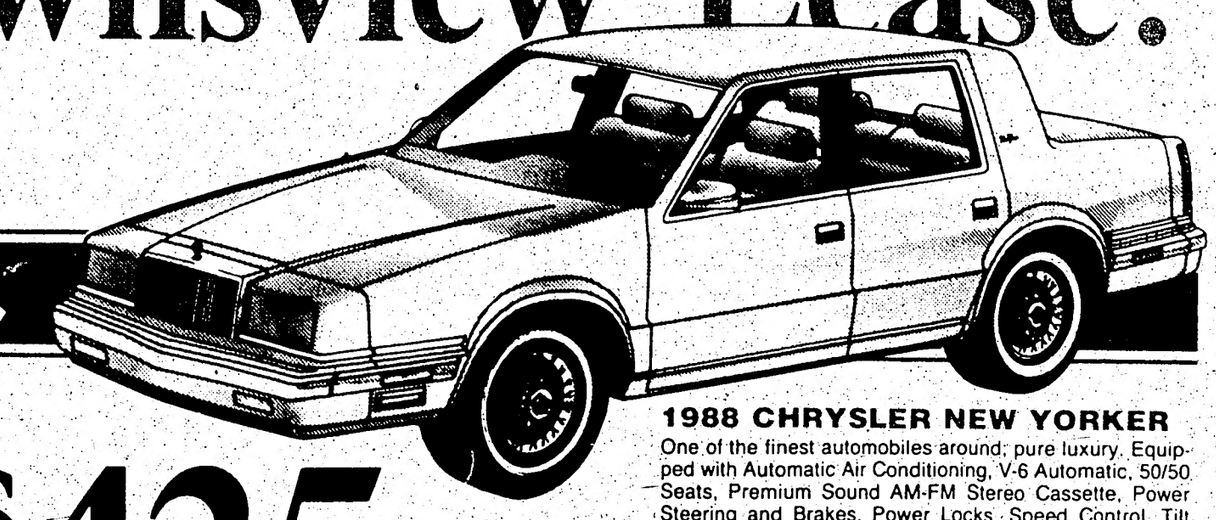

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Arts

Sammy and Rosie is directed by Stephen Frears, and stars Shashi Kapoor, Claire Bloom, Ayub Khan Din and Frances Barber.

A dark vision of today's Britain

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

Stephen Frears, the talented director of *Sammy and Rosie* (formerly entitled *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*), has pressing matters on his mind.

Frears, who has made such appealing films as *My Beautiful Laundrette* and *Prick Up Your Ears*, is essentially an iconoclast. Conventional commercial films are not within his range. Interested in the darker side of life, he is attracted to themes like power, racism, human weakness and urban decay.

In *Sammy and Rosie*, which premiered at the Festival of Festivals and which is now playing at Famous Players theatres, Frears and his associate, scriptwriter Hanif Kureishi, are back on familiar ground.

Rafi (Shashi Kapoor), a well-to-do East Indian who held an important government position in his native land, returns to London after a hiatus of many years.

Neither his son Sammy (Ayub Khan Din) nor his daughter-in-law Rosie (Frances Barber) bother to meet him at the airport. Unbeknownst to Rafi, Sammy and Rosie are on the verge of breaking up. He will soon learn about their shaky marriage.

Still more disappointments lie on the horizon. Sammy, bearing a grudge against his father, exhibits little love towards him. Rosie is disdainful of his shady political past. Rafi's niece, a bold lesbian, slams doors in his face.

The only person who doesn't disillusion Rafi is Alice (Claire Bloom), an old flame who understands him better than anyone else.

Rafi's rose-colored picture of Britain is swiftly shattered. He has fond, though naive, memories of a pleasant, civilized country. But the Britain he sees now is very different. Sammy's dilapidated neighborhood is torn by racial strife, street riots and police brutality, with impoverished squatters having taken over uninhabited tracts of land.

Frears' vision of contemporary Britain and of Thatcherism is unrelievedly dark, sombre and pessimistic. And his view of human relationships, though leavened by bright humor, does not inspire too much hope.

But this is Frears' universe, and *Sammy and Rosie* explores it mercilessly and, at times, uproariously.

Shul's musical concert a showcase for cantors

TORONTO —

Tibor Kelen's expressive rendition of *Lo Tedah Milchama* (You'll Know War No More) was among the highlights of a 3-hour cantorial concert recently at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, host cantor Hesh Myersdorff said.

"Kelen sang in a powerful operatic style," Myersdorff told The Canadian Jews afterwards. The prophetic song of peace, in particular, "was very well received."

Kelen, Misha Alexandrovitch and Efraim Sapir, who with Myersdorff and Kelen's wife, Gabrielle, made up the concert, are all former Beth David cantors, now serving congregations in the U.S.

"The evening was a real showcase of talent," Myersdorff said.

Alexandrovitch, a "master of liturgy," sang his "moving Yiddish song as if he were telling a story.

"Sapir's chassidic style" was loudly applauded, Myhersdorff said.

Gabrielle Kelen's *Rozhinkes mit Manedlen* (Raisins and Almonds) and participation in several duets also received much applause, he added.

On a personal note, Myersdorff said his best number was an operatic rendition of *Ad Heno* (To Here), from the liturgy.

Nutcracker a Suite ballet for children

TORONTO —

It's that nutty time of year again for children who love ballet.

More specifically, it's that time of year when the National Ballet of Canada presents its 23rd production of *The Nutcracker*, which is running until Jan. 3 at the O'Keefe Centre.

The principal dancers in the beloved Tchaikovsky classic about dancing snowmen and capering mice will include Kimberly Glasco, Gregory Osborne, Kim Lightheart and Raymond Smith alternating in the featured roles.

The choreography, as in the past 23 seasons, is by the National Ballet's founder, Celia Franca.

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Arts

From Madonna to Dr. Ruth, she does them all

Impersonator's shtiklech aim at sympathetic depictions

By
FRANK RASKY

TORONTO —

"Oy vey!" moaned Marilyn Michaels over the phone from her elegant apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side overlooking the Hudson River. "Don't ask!"

Why was Marilyn Michaels moaning?

Because the blonde comedienne-cum-singer is a *female* female impersonator.

She has been called the female version of the late Peter Sellers — the woman of a thousand faces and voices, who impersonates a wide range of female celebrities from singing sexpot Madonna to sex therapist Dr. Ruth.

She is scheduled to bring her galaxy of lady luminaries with her to the Royal York Hotel's Imperial Room, where she'll be the headliner of her own 1-hour show this New Year's Eve.

And I'd just asked the Jewish entertainer, via a long-distance phone interview the other day, to list her gallery of impersonation subjects. I also asked her to give me an idea of the kind of Yiddish humor she'll play up in her act.

"Oy vey!" repeated Michaels, whose brand of comedy is well known to fans who frequent the pleasure domes from Las Vegas to Atlantic City and places like Miami Beach in between.

"You'd fill up three pages of The Canadian Jewish News if you were to list all the femme celebs I do," she said. "To save time, you might begin with Joan Collins. End it with Mae West. And in the middle you could stick in every well known woman you can think of.

"Tell your readers I'll invite them at my show to name any famous lady, from fact to fiction, and I'll respond to their challenge with an adlib impersonation."

"But what about your prepared comedy sketches?" I persisted. "In the past, I understand you used to sing Hamlet's soliloquy in the style of Gloria Steinem posing the question, 'To be wed or not to be?' In another skit, I also understand you imagined what certain women, like Joan Rivers, Lily Tomlin and Dolly Parton, would do if they were elected U.S. President."

Marilyn Michaels

"Oy vey!" groaned Michaels. "Don't give away my comedy *shtiklech!"*

"At least," I pursued relentlessly, "tell me if the report is true that Barbra Streisand was furious when she was the subject of one of your takeoffs?"

"Actually," said Michaels, "I got that flak from Barbra's mother. She protested, 'My little girl, Barbra, never crosses her eyes like that!' "

In fact, Michaels maintains she strives for a sympathetic understanding of all the women she impersonates, including Barbra Streisand.

She is proud of having been selected to play the Streisand-Fanny Brice role in the national touring company of *Funny Girl.*

To perfect that sort of impersonation, she reads all she can about the subject, watches old film clips, and replays recordings of the voices until she captures the precise vocal inflections and personality.

"I was lucky when preparing to tour with that show," she recalled. "I caught a glimpse of Fanny Brice in action in a very old Ziegfeld Follies film. I got a further insight into her character from Molly Picon, a veteran of the New York Yiddish theatre, who played opposite me in the touring company of *Funny Girl."*

Michaels has an intimate knowledge of the onetime stars of the Yiddish Theatre on the East Side of New York.

Her mother, Fraydele Oysher, was an actress who performed in some of those Yiddish melodramas, and is still active in stage productions by Jewish organizations.

Her late uncle, Moishe Oysher, was a renowned cantor in the Catskills borscht circuit and a celebrated actor in the New York Yiddish theatre.

"He was a tall, exquisite, charismatic personality, with a handsome beard, before he died in his 50s," she says of her uncle. "The critics said he had lots of *neshama* — Yiddish soul or feeling — whenever he sang."

He starred in a number of Yiddish films, including the lead in *The Singing Blacksmith,* and as the cantor's son in *Overture To Glory.*

Michaels especially enjoys going to the New York Jewish Museum to watch her uncle perform in *Raisins And Almonds,* the Yiddish theatre film documentary narrated by Orson Welles.

She is happy to say that, before her uncle's death, she persuaded him to participate in a Tower Records album she produced entitled *An Oysher Album.* It's an all-family album of Yiddish and liturgical music and, besides her uncle, the performers include herself, her mother Fraydele, and her father, Harold Sternberg.

Now in his 70s, her father is a retired basso profundo formerly with New York's Metropolitan Opera Company. He's also a former cantor and conductor of a choir in the Pines Hotel in the Catskills.

"Not only was I the choir soloist at 14, I remember singing professionally with my mother at the age of 7," says Michaels. "And though I have no memory of it, I'm sure I began performing the minute after I emerged from my mother's womb, probably yelling, 'Hey, folks! Look at me!' "

Now married to Dr. Peter Wilk, a surgeon with New York's Beth Israel Hospital specializing in obesity cases, Michaels is the mother of 4-year-old Mark. Offstage, she insists she is a shy introvert, who is terribly uptight on opening night.

How does she calm her fears before walking onstage?

"Sammy Davis Jr. tells me that before going on he looks down at his shoes and prays, 'Feets, do your stuff.'

"Me, I say a little Yiddish prayer, using a Yiddish expression, like 'pooh-pooh, pooh' or *'keina horah,'* meaning 'touch wood' or 'may the evil eye not gaze at me,' " she says.

When she opens on New Year's Eve at the Imperial Room, chances are she'll be moaning to herself a triple *"Oy vey!"*

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Religious convictions motivate some

Far right groups see God as racist

books

By BERNARD BASKIN

Is God a Racist? By Stanley R. Barrett. University of Toronto, $16.95.

God is a racist. This is the startling conclusion of a Toronto white supremacist, anti-semitic organization.

The past three decades in Canada have seen an explosion of right-wing activity. Hate groups have sprouted like malignant mushrooms. Among the best known are the Western Guard, the Ku Klux Klan, the Aryan Nation, the Nationalist Party — and a host of less familiar organizations, from Concerned Parents of German Descent to Citizenship Foreign Aid Reform. In an appendix to this groundbreaking study the author lists more than 100 right-wing groups that have come into existence since the Second World War.

Barrett, who spent seven years in researching and writing this study, argues that racism is nothing new, that it has been an integral part of the Canadian social fabric since the country's beginning. Anti-semitism and other forms of group antagonism are a natural outgrowth of a broader, intolerant way of life.

Moreover, the author concludes that right-wing zealots are motivated by what must be regarded as religious or semi-religious convictions. They are fighting the battle of the Lord against alien and hostile forces who are attacking the very foundations of Western Christian civilization.

How many persons are involved in right-wing activity? Not many. Perhaps a few thousand in all. But, maintains Barrett, it takes only a small organized group of fanatics to create fear and even havoc in the community.

It is a mistake to assume that education or a measure of economic well-being are insulators against racism and violence. "One does not have to be an unemployed school dropout to go off the deep end."

Charting the path of Canada's Jews from a time of low socio-economic status to relative affluence today (although one out of every six Jews in Canada is poor), the author points out that "had any other minority group, subjected to discrimination over the years, become a similar success story, its achievements would have been applauded. Tragically, Jews can't seem to win. They are either fighting for survival, or, when historical circumstances provide them with a breather, and they "make it," they live in apprehension of being accused of having a strangle hold on the nation's finances."

In analyzing the Keegstra case, Barrett emphasizes that a bigot doesn't have to be an ogre. Keegstra may be an odious individual in the light of his aberrant views about Jews and the Holocaust, but at the same time be regarded as a highly principled and devout member of the community.

The author is a professor of Anthropology and Sociology at the University of Guelph. His lucid and exhaustive examination of fascism in Canada is a disturbing but challenging call to arms. Cliche or not, the future of a democratic Canada is only as assured as the measure of the concern of its citizens.

New looks at the Holocaust

By DAVID BIRKAN

A number of recently published books are adding new perspectives to the Holocaust.

Simon Wiesenthal's *Every Day Remembrance Day: A Chronicle of Jewish Martyrdom* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, $37) is a sombre historical diary listing persecutions and pogroms that befall the Jews on every day of the Gregorian calendar year, from the Middle Ages through the Holocaust.

It is a book that an Elie Wiesel hero is sure to smuggle into heaven and confront the Almighty with.

Wiesenthal is the celebrated Nazi hunter whose attention has come to include a number of suspected war criminals living in Canada.

Entries are brief, clearly written, and well laid out. The juxtaposition of events centuries apart in time but very close in pattern and effect emphasizes the perennial nature of anti-semitism. It also carries additional implications.

The date Sept. 4, for example, lists 10 entries, beginning with a Talmud burning in 1553 Italy to a 1944 deportation of 2,087 Dutch Jews to the Teresienstadt concentration camp.

The book's 280 pages include a bibliography and an extensive index of places, in which events occurring at specific towns and cities can be tracked. There is no general index.

One criticism: By excluding from the book's scope events of a happier kind, Wiesenthal runs the risk of alienating some readers who may find his contents depressing.

Gena Turgel's *I Light A Candle* (Grafton Books-Collins, $25) is a moving and inspiring autobiography of a woman survivor. Her focus is on people and relationships, not the physical details of her torment.

Epitomizing her outlook is her marriage in April, 1945. It was an act of love that became, in the words of the rabbi who performed the service, "a symbol of life after death."

Jewish Combatants of World War Two (U.S.$5) is an anthology of first-person accounts by partisans and survivors, one in a series of semi-annual journals.

Editor Isaac Kowalski published a 3-volume Anthology on Armed Jewish Resistance over the past several years.

The journal carries Revisionist Zionist leader Ze'ev Jabotinsky's plea for a Jewish armed force against the Nazis, delivered at the onset of the Holocaust. The balance of the journal can be seen as a justification of Jabotinsky's worst fears for the Jews and of his faith in the Jew as a fighter.

The journal is available through P.O. Box 360323, Brooklyn, NY 11236-0007.

The *Book of Job* (North Point Press, U.S.$12.50) — whose much tested hero has been likened to the Jews in the Holocaust — ends in mystery and redoubled faith and reward, in this translation into verse by U.S. Jewish poet Stephen Mitchell.

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Arts

Jascha Heifetz dead at 86

Violin virtuoso was devoted to his Jewish homeland

By
FRANK RASKY

Jascha Heifetz, the Jewish aristocrat of violin virtuosos, described in his heyday as "the king of violinists and the violinist of kings," recently died at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre in Los Angeles after undergoing neurosurgery. He was 86.

In the 1930s and 1940s, when any musically gifted Jewish boy was almost invariably fated to end up a fiddle player, the highest accolade possible was: "He's almost as good as Heifetz."

It signified impeccable technique, silken tone, and and elegance of phrasing whose purity was matchless.

"He revolutionized violin playing," Itzhak Perlman, the renowned violinist, recalled last week.

That tribute was echoed by master violinist Isaac Stern, who told reporters, "Since his debut in the U.S., Heifetz was the world's most powerful force in violin playing."

The debut of the 16-year-old *Wunderkind* at Carnegie Hall on Oct. 27, 1917, inspired an oft-quoted witticism. The listeners in the audience included the distinguished violinist, Mischa Elman, and pianist Leopold Godowsky.

After Heifetz's brilliant performance of the *Vitali Chaconne* drew a thunderous ovation, Elman mopped his brow and remarked to Godowsky, "It's awfully hot here."

Godowsky replied with amusement: "Not for pianists."

Heifetz took his Judaism as seriously as he did his musicianship.

Israelis idolized him because of his devotion to the Jewish homeland. He first visited Palestine in 1926 and donated funds to build a Jewish music conservatory there.

In 1967, he performed as a soloist with the Israel Philharmonic at a special benefit for the country immediately after the Six Day War. In 1970, he revisited Israel, performing several times with the Philharmonic; he turned over half of his fee to the orchestra's pension fund and the other half to Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir to distribute as she deemed best.

Grateful Israelis built the Jascha Heifetz Hall in Tel Aviv, the only music hall in the world to bear his name.

Yet he would not accept Israeli censorship of composers. In 1953, Heifetz stirred up an uproar by performing in Haifa Richard Strauss's *Violin Sonata*, whose music to this day is banned in Israel because of the composer's alleged allegiance to Hitler.

Heifetz countered that artistic considerations were the only factors in determining musical programs, and insisted on playing the sonata in Jerusalem. Extremist members of the Herut youth movement shut off all lights in the concert hall, disrupting the concert for 10 minutes.

And afterwards, as Heifetz was making his way from the King David Hotel to his car, an Israeli youth beat him up with a crowbar, slightly injuring the violinist's arm.

Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion immediately sent him a telegram of sympathy, saying he would attend the virtuoso's final recital in Tel Aviv. At that concert, Heifetz discreetly omitted the controversial Strauss sonata.

It would be wrong to suppose, though, that Heifetz was impassive toward Nazism. He once refused to appear with the Chicago Symphony if Wilhelm Furtwangler was the guest conductor. Heifetz argued that Furtwangler had ample opportunity to leave Germany before and during World War II, but chose to remain, thus serving Hitler's cause.

Heifetz didn't mind controversy. He attacked the custom of polite applause. He advocated the hissing and booing of mediocre concert soloists. He upbraided contemporary Israeli composers for creating unmelodious "modern music that does not sound too much like music." And he poured scorn on showoffy concert soloists who behaved like "acrobatic exhibitionists" to woo plaudits from the public.

Jascha Heifetz, who died recently, was known as "the fiddler's fiddler" and was revered by Israelis who named a Tel Aviv concert hall after him. [Canapress photo]

Heifetz's detractors retaliated that the violinist shunned showmanship because he had no flair for it. They accused him of being aloof and arrogant.

Deems Taylor wrote in *The Well-Tempered Listener:* "He is too Olympian, too detached, they say; he touches your head too much, and your heart not enough."

In his autobiography, *Unfinished Journey*, violinist Yehudi Menuhin disagreed: "I think they misunderstood for coldness a degree of discipline and method which no other violinist of our time possessed . . . He strove for a control so complete that each performance would be identical — a valid, admirable approach, but not mine . . . Nevertheless, he was my greatest inspiration."

Behind his masklike reserve, however, the virtuoso with the high Tartar cheekbones, hooded blue eyes and grim visage concealed a dry wit. After a half century of disciplined stage musicianship, it amused him that people expressed surprise that he still needed to practice.

"I agree with Liszt," he said. "If I don't practice one day, I know it; two days, the critics know it; three days, the public knows it."

As the world's highest-paid violinist of his time, demanding $6,000 per performance, he had an imperial appreciation of his own value and dignity. Asked once why he had not written his memoirs, he replied: "Here is my biography. I played the violin at 3. I gave my first concert at 7. I have been playing ever since."

On another occasion, when performing in Toronto, he told a Canadian journalist: "I've made my own living and supported my family from the time I was 7 years old."

"I suppose," said the newspaperman, "that up to then you were just a parasite."

Heifetz was not indulging in braggadocio. The son of Reuven, an impoverished violinist for a theatre orchestra in Vilna, Russia, Jascha was taught to perform on a quarter-size fiddle given to him on his third birthday. At 7, he made his professional debut in Kovno, performing Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto*.

Thereafter, under the tutelage of Leopold Auer, the illustrious professor of violin at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, the curly-haired prodigy in short pants was a sensation, performing before the crowned heads of Europe, the Scandinavian countries, and the Orient.

Typically, George Bernard Shaw wrote the "miniature wizard" a gushy fan letter: "Your recital filled me and my wife with anxiety. If you provoke a jealous God by playing with such superhuman perfection, you will die young.

"I earnestly advise you to play something badly every night before going to bed, instead of saying your prayers. No mortal should presume to play so faultlessly."

The so-called "modern Orpheus" accepted his acclaim with aplomb. Only once was he drubbed by the press, though the reprimand was not directed at his musicianship. It was when he played the violin and also assumed a speaking part in the Sam Goldwyn movie, *They Shall Have Music*. His acting was derided by one film critic as "woefully deficient."

An American citizen since 1925, Heifetz lived in regal splendor in Los Angeles where he was married and divorced twice. His first wife was Hollywood silent screen star Florence Vidor; his second one Frances Spiegelberg. He gave his last solo concert in 1972 with a performance at the Los Angeles Music Centre; his final words to the audience were: "I am pooped."

He became a virtual recluse in his old age, jealously guarding his privacy. "Even Heifetz has to make an appointment with Heifetz," joked his longtime friend, pianist Artur Rubenstein.

Heifetz condemned rock music. "Rock 'n' roll is a catastrophe," he said. "It's chief quality is noise."

But he loved to play jazz. Strangely, though he did not compose any classical music, he did write a pop song, *When You Make Love To Me, Don't Make Believe*, using the pseudonym, Jim Hoyl. Bing Crosby's release of the ballad sold 300,000 records.

"I wrote it to prove a theory," Heifetz explained. "We were sitting around the dinner table in California, talking about the young American public that listens to jazz.

"I said, 'These boys and girls don't care a hoot for the names of composers. They like what they like without being overawed by tags.'

"Some of my friends disagreed and challenged me to prove it. Well, I did."

Heifetz also composed a swing band number inspired by his favorite classical violin encore piece, *Hora Staccato*. The hepcats jitterbugged to it under its flashier title, *Hora Swingcato*.

Winter break gives opportunity to catch up on your reading

By
DAVID BIRKAN

The coming winter break in the community calendar offers an ideal opportunity to read and learn from a number of new books.

Robert Cohen's *The Ad Game* (CCH Publications, $13) is a concise introduction to state-of-the-art advertising procedures.

Maurice Friedman's *Abraham Joshua Heschel and Elie Wiesel* (Farrar, Straus, Giroux) is a personal assessment of two leading post-Holocaust Jewish philosophers.

Michael Wolffsohn's *Israel: Polity, Society, and Economy 1882-1986* (Humanities Press International, $18 U.S.) is a detailed study by one of Germany's leading academic authorities on the subject.

Stephen Speisman's *The Jews of Toronto: A History to 1937* (McClelland and Stewart) is a paperbound edition of the study first published eight years ago.

Cohen's The Ad Game has wide potential as a textbook, guide for businessmen and commentary on modern society.

As befitting a communications practitioner, ad man Cohen's copy is crisp, clear, and informative. The wide range of topics, from setting an advertising budget to avoiding letters with descenders in print text, is well detailed. Paragraph and line counts provide for speedy cross-references.

Friedman, professor of religious studies at San Diego State University, provides a readable account of Heschel's and Wiesel's writing, while noting their influence on his own professional development.

It is a valuable introduction to Heschel, whose philosophic explorations have not attained the paperback universality of Wiesel's stories.

Friedman emphasizes the Holocaust as the underlying theme to which the works of both authors are bound.

Countless charts, references and maps contribute to the impressive academic erudition displayed in Wolffsohn's 300-page study, one of the best on modern Israel that this reviewer has seen.

To his credit, Wolffsohn manages to keep his own political bias from breaking through until almost the end of the book, when he asks: "Is the Bible to be regarded as a moral compass or a political compass?

"In other words, should the West Bank be annexed because it was once part of the lands of biblical Israel, or is the task rather to live according to the teachings of the Bible?" One precludes the other, according to Wolffsohn.

Speisman's The Jews of Toronto remains the definitive account of the city's early community since the book was first published. It is recommended as a valuable handbook for educators, social workers and other communal professions.

One comment cannot be repressed: Much has happened in Toronto's community since 1937. Most of the Jews in the city today or their families settled here after World War II.

Is anyone writing a study of Toronto's more recent history?

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Travel

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Miami a gateway to diverse Florida activities

MIAMI BEACH — For many Canadians seeking to escape the winter's cold weather, this resort community is the main warm weather destination. From here there is easy access to all parts of Florida, and there are frequent daily flights from Canada.

Seventy-five miles (120 km) to the north is the Palm Beach area, legendary winter haunt of the wealthy. This is an area of fine long stretches of sand beaches, excellent deepsea fishing in the Atlantic Ocean, croquet and polo matches, as well as wildlife refuges.

Early this century, Henry Flagler built a railroad from the New York area to Palm Beach and built a mansion here for his family. Today the mansion is a museum open to the public, furnished as it was when it was opened, while his private railroad car sits on the property.

In Palm Beach and its nearby communities you can enjoy shopping along streets like Worth Ave. where expensive boutiques flourish. You can catch a glimpse of the jet set people, the stars of TV and the screen. There are numerous fine restaurants, some less expensive than others, and plenty of accommodations in all price ranges.

Among attractions are the Norton Gallery of art with a fine collection of jade and Oriental sculpture, and the South Florida Science Museum, along with an aquarium and planetarium. Nearby is Lion Country Safari, a Florida-placed African game preserve, and also the Dreher Park Zoo.

South of Miami are the Florida Keys, terminating at Key West, the most southern point in the United States. You can drive along U.S. Highway 1 past small towns, mangrove islands and some 42 bridges. It is 180 miles (290 km) from Miami to Key West. The bridges connect 32 islands. You are over water most of the time, and can find accommodations on many of the islands for a stopover or to go fishing.

En route you can stop at the only living coral reef on the continent, which has been turned into John Pennecamp Coral Reef State Park, and, with snorkeling equipment, you can swim among the tropical fish. Near Key West there are wildlife refuges for deer and white herons.

In Key West you can take a trolley tour of the town and visit the homes of Ernest Hemingway and 19th century wildlife painter John James Audubon. There are a number of small museums in Key West, the Lighthouse Military Museum with a good view of the island from its tower, and another of the days when the island was noted for cigar making and sponge diving.

A couple of little islands on the Gulf of Mexico coast of Florida, Sanibel and Captive, 144 miles (230 km) west of Miami, have become popular for their long stretches of clean beach and quantities of unusual sea shells washed ashore. The two islands are near Fort Myers and accessible by road causeway, rented motorboat or passenger boat from there.

On the islands, if you are a bird watcher, you can see dozens of species of birds as well as land-based animals, from alligators on. At Fort Myers you can visit the winter home of inventor Thomas Edison. From here you can also take a cruise to the west coast area of Everglades National Park.

Within minutes of Miami Beach's ocean front resorts, you can embark on a day's hunt for big game fish — even the blue marlin. There is always the chance the waters off the city will yield one of these magnificent fighting fish. When the marlin is hooked and jumps from the water, it is the thrill of a lifetime — even if you have caught other game fish.

You will be able to charter a boat through your hotel bell captain or from any of the charter operators near the Miami Beach piers. Most all-day charter craft have space for about six people, supply fishing gear and sometimes lunch and refreshments. Charter captains set their own rates, averaging about U.S. $60 per person for the day.

Dinner theatre offers thunderous excitement

ORLANDO, Fla. — Arabian Nights, a dazzling 1,001-seat dinner attraction opens in January in a 2½-acre Arabian-style palace at U.S. 192 and I-4.

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Information on a variety of U.S. destinations may be obtained by telephoning TRAVEL USA at (416) 364-3211 between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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$499,000. Stunning two storey 4 bedroom/4 baths. Exquisite family room with wet bar and oak & copper fireplace. Open staircase to finished basement with sauna and nanny's room. S. Stern 441-2888.

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Safeguard Real Estate Limited Realtor

PANORAMIC VIEW! 3-BDRM. CONDO
A rare find! Spacious principal rms., prestigious bldg., Bathurst N. of Finch, exclusive; Helen Gould, 886-1200 (24-hr. pager), 633-5332.

ALLAN Spivak LTD. REALTOR

***PARK LIKE SETTING FOREST HILL**
10 year old home boasts 4 bdrms, 5 baths, 3 fireplaces, perfect location for executive or children. April '88 possession. $439,000 E. Spivak 787-1827.

***ABCDEFG . . . POOL! TUVWXYZ** Sold
This home has everything fro... Z. Included: a heated pool, C.A.C. mod. kit. & bath. Do...wn convenience. Park-like setting. $349,000 Elizabeth Spivak 787-1827.

***NORTH YORK $198,500**
4 bdrms, semi — in immaculate condition. Modern kit. Gleaming hardwood. Fin. lower. Marla Lehberg 787-1827.

***FIRST AD! RIDGEGATE!**
Fabulous large 5 bdrm family home. Centre hall with sunken living room. Huge family room. Fin. lower with 6th bdrm for help. $444,500 Bernie Goldhar 787-1827.

787-1827

REAL ESTATE

1 Houses For Sale

ALAN UNGERMAN REALTY LIMITED REALTOR

731-7111

BATHURST-STEELES — FAMILY PARADISE!
Quiet cres., fin. bsmnt., playroom, 4 bdrm., mn. flr. fam. rm., fenced garden, sauna, near parks. Robin Korman, 731-7111.

EDMUND SEAGER ESTATES — DESIGNER HOME
Reduced! Gorgeous 4 bdrm., 4 bths., mn. flr. libr. & fam. rm., open concept, gourmet kitch., 60' lot. Dillon Jones, 731-7111.

SPRING FARM — CHOICE BUY!
Decorated, 4 bdrm., mn. flr. laundry, fin. lower level with maid's rm., 4 whsrms. Evelyn Pollock, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — TRY AN OFFER!
Super 3 bdrm., mn. flr. fam., premium lot, 5 appls., C-A/Vac, decorated! $219,900. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

NEW WESTMINSTER — PROMENADE — BIG & LOVEABLE
Almost new! Centre hall, 4 bdrms., mn. flr. laundry & fam., shows like a model! Super value! $289,900. Mike James, 731-7111.

BATHURST VILLAGE — JUST LISTED!
Hardwd.! Ceramics! Marble! Fabulous 3 bdrm., dble. gar., premium lot, upgraded & renovated. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — RENT BEATER!
Charming 3 bdrm. townhouse, fin. bsmnt., new broadloom, hdwd. flrs. throughout, tasteful decor. Dillon Jones, 731-7111.

BATHURST-NORTH — HERE'S YOUR CHANCE!
Vendor bought! Immaculate 3 bdrm. link, cathedral ceiling, super fam. rm., fin. bsmnt. $181,900. Marilyn Ray, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE!
Lovely 6 rm. semi bung., fin. bsmnt., sep. entrance, appls., air. Try an offer! Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

DON MILLS-STEELES — JUST LISTED!
Fabulous 3 bdrm. backsplit, fam. rm., firepl., pool, sauna, Evelyn Pollock, 731-7111.

DON MILLS-STEELES — WYCLIFFE-BUILT
Reduced! Exec. 3 bdrm. townhome, lg. eat-in kitch., fam. rm., firepl., extras! $179,500. Joey Taylor, 731-7111.

BAYVIEW NORTH — MUST BE SEEN!
3 bdrm. semi, open concept, professionally fin. bsmnt., Homes & Gardens decor. Must be seen! $189,900. Marilyn Ray, 731-7111.

DON MILLS-STEELES — A RARE FIND!
Fantastic 3 bdrm. end unit townhome, cathedral ceiling, extras galore, near all amenities. Hurry! Ellen Fisher, 731-7111.

BRUCE SMITH REALTY LTD. REAL ESTATE BROKER

1ST. AD — ST. CLAIR/BATHURST
• LEGAL TRIPLEX
$489K — Partially renovated detached 3 storey 19 room triplex + 2 basement apts. Two 3 bedroom suites each with separate living and diningroom, sunroom, 4 pc & 2 pc powder room + deluxe 4 room apt. with walkout to deck. 43 ft. lot with 4 car garage. Presently vacant. Bruce Smith 785-7019.

NEAR U. OF T./SUBWAY
• RESIDENCE + INCOME
$369K — Enormous 3 storey 9 rm property + self contained bsmt apt. Present use multi family with lux bachelor & 7 rental rms. Reno. to duplex or single family. Bruce Bewick 785-7019.

ST. CLAIR/BATHURST
• A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE
$319K — Luxury renovation. Over 2,600 sq. ft. of total living area on 3 floors includes separate apt. with private entrance. 3 Bedroom with 3 designer 4 pc baths, oak and marble Beckerman kitchen. Private landscaped garden. Bruce Smith 785-7019.

LOWER FOREST HILL
• LAND/LOCATION
Last house on the right, south of Millbank. A throw back to the golden days of Hollywood, art deco custom raised bungalow with 92' frontage. 12+ room with walk-out lower level + 30' stone patio. 3 car garage, CAC. Bruce Smith 785-7019.

ST. CLAIR/BATHURST
• SPACIOUS 4 BEDROOM
$229K Detached brick 2 storey just N. of St. Clair. Separate living and dining room with fireplace, oak trim & floors. Side entrance provides potential for bsmt. apt. Immed. poss. Shirley Somers 785-7019.

KING/PARLIAMENT
• THE BEST OF 2 WORLDS
$189,000. 5 + room renovated turn of the century 2 storey. Open concept main floor with 10' pot lit ceilings, custom f/p with built-ins. Modern kit. with walkout to private courtyard. New mechanics, central airconditioning. Coreen Morrison 785-7019.

DUFFERIN/STEELES
• A LITTLE DOWN BUYS A LOT
10 — 10½% mtge.—4 yrs. + VTB 2nd at 10%. Brick 2 storey 3 bedroom. Main floor powder room & w/o. Attached garage. Immediate possession. Also for rent $1,100 + +. Coreen Morrison 785-7019.

"For The Bare Facts"
480-BEAR 785-7019
Realtor

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1 Houses For Sale

HOMELIFE CIMERMAN REAL ESTATE LTD. - REALTOR MEMBER

BATHURST-SHEPPARD-WILSON
Triplexes. 3 bdrms. & 2 bdrms., lg. suites, gar., excellent incomes, Joe Salomon, 226-9770.

BATHURST & ELGIN MILLS
4 bdrm., 4 bths., huge kitch., firepl., extras, 3,500 sq. ft. of living space, Shelly Halpern or Judit Engel, 226-9770.

BATHURST-CLARK
Super luxury condo suite, balcony, ultra eat-in kitch., master en-suite, close to all, Joe Salomon, 226-9770.

BATHURST-STEELES
1st time buyers! Luxury townhouse, 2,160 sq. ft., many upgrades, Stephen Bloom, 226-9770.

BATHURST-STEELES — TOWNHOME
3 bdrm., 3 bths., fin. bsmnt., firepl., air, 5 appls., Shelly Halpern or Judit Engel, 226-9770.

BATHURST-STEELES
Prestigious 4 bdrm. in Ridgegate. 2,700 sq. ft., fin. bsmnt., Stephen Bloom, 226-9770.

BATHURST MANOR TRIPLEX
2-3 bdrm., & 1 2-bdrm., fully leased, excellent income, prime area. Judit Engel/Shelly Halpern, 226-9770.

BATHURST-STEELES
Gorgeous home. Bright, eat-in kitch., 2 firepl., completely fin. bsmnt., 4 bths., many upgrades, Joe Salomon, 226-9770.

ROYAL LEPAGE

REDUCED — SUPER TRADE UP!!
$324,900. Got Kids? Need Space? Green Lane District - Safe Cul-De-Sac. Bright, Large 2 Storey, 4 Bd. Exec. Home. Family Rm. W/Bar Area on Main. W. Cooper 221-5511.

4+3+2+1=THE PERFECT HOME!!
$263,800 Pretty as a Picture! This Home Sparkles! Large, Loaded, Lovely. 4 Baths 3 Bd. 2 Car Garage 1 Huge Family Rm. + Finished Bsmt. A Beaut!! W. Cooper 221-5515.

CONSERVATORY I — CLARKE - HILDA
$219,000 Luxurious Groundfloor Condo, No Steps, 1,600 Sq. Ft. Gorgeous European Style Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms + Den, Immediate Possession. John Gerber 487-4311.

WELL PRICED — IMMACULATE!
$207,900. 3 Bd. Beautifully Finished Bsmt. Great Kitchen W/Large Eating Area. Close to Excellent Schools, Transportation + Shopping. Don Mills/Steeles W. Cooper 221-5515.

BATHURST/CLARK, BRAND NEW!!
$189,900. Superb 2 Bdrm., + Sun Den + Balcony. Steps From Kosher Plaza & New Synagogue. S. Kiestin 229-2800.

BATHURST/CENTRE, DON'T MISS IT
$166,900. Spacious 2 Bdrm., Loaded Kit., Great Rec. Facil., Steps to All Amenities. Sheldon Kiestin 229-2800.

Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd.

SEIDMAN REAL ESTATE LIMITED/REALTOR 633-7373

BATHURST-YORK DOWNS
Estate Sale, custom built 4 bdrms., 3 bth., 2 fireplaces, ravine lot, all good size rooms, fam. rm., w/o's, dbl. gar., extras. 633-7373.

BATHURST-CLARK $264,900
New 4 bdrms. 2 storey, huge liv. & din. W/o, large kit., fam. rm., fireplace, dbl. gar. Quality built, steps to everything. 633-7373.

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
Reduced - Large split level 4 bdrms., good size liv. & din., fam. rm., fireplace, w/o, dbl. gar. 633-7373.

WILMINGTON-OVERBROOK
2 Storey or bungalow, 3-4 bdrms., den, huge liv. & din., finished bsmt. Move in condition. Steps to everything. 633-7373.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

30 ENGLISH IVYWAY
Club area, 2 storey, contemporary townhouse, lg. kitch., w/o to deck, skylight, fin. bsmnt., upgrades, former model home. Tridel built. $199,900. Call June Fogarty, Bramalea Realty Ltd., Realtor, 222-8991 or 477-1532.

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n. s. smith REALTOR

CLARK-BATHURST
2,700 sq. ft. + fin. bsmt., sauna, rec. rm. 2 bdrms., 4 baths, very special house, $294,900; loads of extras. Sally Rosen, 884-4425.

BATHURST-STEELES
3 townhomes - from $159,000. 3 baths, appl., air, garage, nice community. Sally Rosen, 884-4425.

2 Houses For Sale Private

Finch/Wilmington - executive, large 2 storey, 4 bedroom, cathedral ceilings, 4 baths, beautiful Hollywood kitchen, finished basement with wet bar, walk-out to graded ravine lot, double garage. Private. No agents. 633-1874.

Bathurst/Clark - 3 bedroom, 2½ baths, 2,000 sq. ft., steps to synagogue, schools. $238,900. 881-8394.

3 Houses For Rent

BATHURST-CLARK. Gorgeous new 2,600 sq. ft., 3 bdrm. + fam. rm., $1,150. Marilyn Ray, Ungerman Realty Rltr. 731-7111.

3 Houses For Rent

Bathurst/Sheppard (Wild Gingerway) - Luxury 3 bedroom townhouse, recreation room, 2½ baths, central air, garage, 5 appliances, quality broadloom. Immaculate. Near T.T.C. $1,350. January 1st. References. 782-7930.

Keele/Grandravine - 4 bedroom backsplit, private drive, central air, 2 kitchens, 2 appliances, January 1st. Jeff 464-7656, 636-9205.

5 Condominiums For Sale

ANTIBES-TORRESDALE
1-2-3 bdrms. Condominiums & Townhouses wanted. Call
GEORGE BARON R.E. LTD.
665-3044

GEORGE BARON REAL ESTATE LIMITED

• **Courtland.** Corner. 2 bd & bths., firepl. Andi Reti, 731-7111.
• **7420 Bathurst.** 2 bd., corner. $179,900 Gerry Wener, 731-7111.
• **7440 Bathurst.** Lgst. 2 bd., balc. $198,900. Bella Beer, 731-7111.
• **7440 Bathurst.** 2 bd., balc., $158,900. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.
• **7460 Bathurst.** May '88, 2 pkg. 1,400 sq. ft. M. James, 731-7111.
• **Conservatory.** 1,400 ft., 2 bd./bths. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.
• **Bayview/#7.** Lgst. 2 bd. Vera Vadas, 731-7111.
ALAN UNGERMAN RLTY. RLTR.

SKYMARK
DON MILLS & FINCH
SELECTIONS OF 1, 2, 3 BR. OR ONE OF A KIND LUXURY PENTHOUSE. MR. SANTEE LEUNG, THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST, 24 hr. on call + pager, any day, any time. 441-2003.

Santee Realty Inc.

Promenade II - 2 bedrooms, living room and solarium, 2 full baths + shower. Full recreation facilities. 738-0272. Private.

6 Condominiums For Rent

PROMENADE I-2 bd., $1,200. Bella Beer, Ungerman Rltry Rltr., 731-7111.

Finch/Bathurst - Luxury, 2 large bedrooms. Call after 5:00. 635-5964 or 630-1285.

Bathurst/Clark - 2 bedroom penthouse, large sunroom, recreation facilities in building, south exposure, $1,350/month, for 1 year. 764-8667 after 5:30 p.m. or leave message.

10 Accommodation Wanted

Jewish elderly lady looking to share apartment with same, for companionship. Bathurst/Steeles area preferred. Yiddish speaking. 225-7032 evenings.

11 Shared Accommodation

Bathurst/Wilson - Male to share very large apartment. Kosher preferred. 783-3889 - mornings/late evenings.

12 Apartments For Rent

Bathurst/Sheppard - Newly renovated 1 bedroom basement apartment including: living/dining room, kitchen, bathroom, broadloom, non-smoker. $575. 633-6759 after 8 p.m.

13 Cottages For Rent

Two year round. 3 and 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, furnished, equipped, 5 minutes to Gravenhurst, lakefront, 55 acres - ideal for cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. No pets. Immediate until May 1988. Available by month, week. References. 705-687-6907.

17 Florida Property For Rent

T'House on Aventura Turnberry golf course. 2 B.R., 2½ baths, from 1/7/88, 3 or 4 Mo. $1,500 per Mo. Alex Hauser, Assoc. (305) 931-4143.

Ft. Lauderdale - Beautiful 1 and 2 bedroom condos for rent for the winter season. 736-7772,days.

Naples - Condo, available month of Jan. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, golf, tennis, pool. $1,600 U.S. monthly + utilities. 1-412-828-8981.

1 Bedroom apartment in beautiful area - Ft. Lauderdale, walking distance from beach. 635-9745 or 883-4171. Available January and February.

BOCA WEST - BRIDGEWOOD Totally upgraded townhouse, garden, lovely lake view, 2 bd, 2 baths, laundry, screened porches, tiled throughout, mirrored bar, private club equity available, 40 tennis, 4 golf crse. Priced to sell! (305) 482-5417 (late eves.) or leave message.

18 Florida Property For Sale

2 bedrooms, 2 baths, corner condo. Sacrifice. $55,000 U.S. Furniture optional. 1-305-741-0982. Sunrise, Florida.

19 Florida Property For Rent

Miami Beach/Biscayne Island - Furnished 1 bedroom garden apartment near marina and shopping. $700 monthly. 223-1593.

Rentals or Sales - Call us first, ACME REAL ESTATE. Jerry Rabinovitch. 800E Hallandale Beach Blvd. Hallandale, Florida 33009. 1-305-458-7303.

21 Israel Properties

Wanted - Female psychiatrist doing research needs apartment in Jerusalem, March - July 1988. 968-9423.

23 Office Space

Bathurst/Wilson $170.00, 125 sq. ft., air, parking. Immediate. Mr. Weinper, 630-2810 or 635-9233.

Doctor required for new medical building in Richmond Hill. Ground floor. Bayview Ave. across from new synagogue in new 6,000-home Bayview subdivision. Already leased to dentist, optometrist and chiropractor. Only 1 suite left. June '88 occupancy. 773-5555.

24 Properties Wanted

UNGERMAN REAL ESTATE BROKER
M.L.S. Service 630-9930

HOUSES, Apartments Wanted. MLS Service. George Baron Rltr., 221-6901.

26 Commercial/ Land Sales/Lease

Property manager seeking commercial properties to manage in Southern Ontario. 731-4567.

28 Announcements

Entertainment and Cultural Connection presents ****Jack Manishevitz**** Revisiting the Shtetl - Sunday, December 27, at 8 p.m. Sisterhood Hall, Shaarei Shomayim. Everyone, any age invited. Special tables for singles 31-39 and 39 plus. Guests $2.00.

Let Jewish Information Service help you connect. 635-5600.

29 Social Announcements

Lou and Evelyn are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Brian Kerzner to Tammi Belzberg, daughter of Reni Belzberg and Sydney Belzberg of Vancouver.

Total Look Beauty Studio would like to thank its clients and friends for showing their concern and caring over the passing of Avi Lavi. He was a dear friend who was always devoted to his clients.

31 Cars For Sale

'84 Pontiac Acadian - Metallic gray, 4 door hatchback, power steering, power brakes, automatic transmission, in-line block heater, 60,000 Km. Certified. Good condition - 960-9115. Best Offer.

34 Employment Opportunities

Notice to advertisers - The Ontario Human Rights Code prohibits discrimination because of age, sex, marital status, race creed, color, nationality, ancestry or place of origin. In compliance with this code **The Canadian Jewish News** reserves the right to make the necessary changes in advertising copy.

34 Employment Opportunities

Bathurst/Lawrence - Salesperson needed for children's shoe store. Call until 10 p.m. 785-1546.

Earn extra income with new North York publication selling ad space. Ideal for part-time or semi-retired. No experience necessary. Call Mr. Klein - 630-1930.

Assistant Bookkeeper/Typist - Required for office, Finch/Keele area, to assist controller. Typing, filing and telephone duties. Experience essential, 5-day week, full-time permanent position. Excellent opportunity for the right person. Salary negotiable. Box #8607, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Experienced, part-time counter help required for a meat market. Larry 223-6055.

CLERK TYPIST

Salary: $10.48 — $11.58 per hour

CROWN EMPLOYEE POSITION

Duties and responsibilities

A clerk typist is required by the Co-ordinator, Rent Supplement to provide typing and clerical duties related to the Leasing Program. The successful applicant will be required to assemble and mail Annual Review Packages, log completed forms, prepare appropriate letters, and follow up as required. You will also respond to routine enquiries, type reports and correspondence and file.

Location: 1320 Yonge Street, Toronto

OPEN TO CANDIDATES WITHIN COMMUTING DISTANCE OF METRO TORONTO

Minimum Qualifications

Typing of 50 w.p.m. Good communication skills to compose letters and respond to inquiries. Good telephone manner. Mathematical ability to calculate rents. Good judgement and initiative. Ability to organize work, establish priorities and meet deadlines.

Applications should be received by January 6, 1988 at Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority, Personnel Section, 1320 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4T 2W4, quoting file # MTHA #206/87.

Equality of Opportunity for Employment

An Agency of the Province of Ontario

Ontario — Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority

REGINA'S CATERING Fine Prepared Foods

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ICI SALES

Share your real estate career with a successful and seasoned sales staff.

Excellent location. Our commission arrangement acknowledges your contribution.

For interview call:

Ted Chester,

Retror Real Estate Ltd.

485-5353

34 Employment Opportunities

CLERK GENERAL

Salary: $10.48 — $11.58 per hour

CROWN EMPLOYEE POSITION

Duties and responsibilities

Two Clerk Generals are required in the District Office to provide clerical support services for assigned projects within the District. Your duties will include acting as receptionist; handling cash, opening, sorting and distributing incoming mail and preparing outgoing mail; typing leases, form letters and general correspondence, proofreading same for accuracy and completeness; updating computer records, photocopying, filing and answering telephone.

Location: Downtown

OPEN TO CANDIDATES WITHIN COMMUTING DISTANCE OF METRO TORONTO

Minimum Qualifications

Typing skills of 50 w.p.m. Good knowledge of office procedures. Good verbal communication skills to respond to telephone calls and office visitors. Good organizational skills to organize and priorize work.

Applications should be received by January 6, 1988 at Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority, Personnel Section, 1320 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M4T 2W4, quoting file #207/87.

Equality of Opportunity for Employment

An Agency of the Province of Ontario

Ontario — Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority

37 Financial Opportunities

COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGES
1st as low as 10%
Term 6 mo.-10 yrs.
Fast approval - no fees
787-7854
EMES REALTY INC

38 Domestic Help Available

Employers vended to sponsor nannies from Phillipines. Free charge. Quick results. Mr. Rittner 785-1125 or 661-7919.

Babysitter available in my home, Monday - Friday. Ages 1 and over welcome. Before and after school also. References upon request. Hebrew speaking. 738-8459.

E.C.E. Teacher - Arts and crafts, songs, loving care, Kosher home, 15 months & up. 665-8408.

Mature woman, Polish speaking, looking for housecleaning work, daily 9 - 4. Phone 241-8442 evenings.

Woman, and if necessary her husband, can take care and prepare all meals for an elderly person or couple. Speak Yiddish, Hebrew, Romanian, Russian. References available. Call 665-8457.

39 Domestic Help Wanted

Female, mature, live-in, to assist with kitchen and with mail. 789-5680.

Experienced, mature, kind woman to babysit 2 children, 10 months old and 3½ years old, Monday - Friday, 8-6. 764-9240.

Babysitter - reliable, "yiddishe mama," preferably religious, for infant and toddler. 2:15 - 5:15 p.m. daily. References a must. Call before noon or evenings. 783-7136.

Nanny/housekeeper required for 14-month-old boy, live-in, Thornhill. 736-1233.

40 Personals

We Need You
Do You Need Us?

First time ever now accepting for membership - ladies. We offer social & cultural functions, monthly breakfast meetings, sick & cemetery benefits. Gentlemen welcome. The oldest Jewish Fraternal Organization in Canada. Toronto Hebrew Benevolent Society. Stan Federman - 736-8488, Marv Brown - 782-7450.

Need to talk? Phone a volunteer at Tel-Aide: the Jewish Distress Line, 636-9610.

41 Business Personals

AARON HERMANT, Q.C.
Barrister and Solicitor

Practice limited to:

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Join Chance-A-Glance for successful matchmaking. Call Now. 889-5908.

Cars delivered anywhere in Canada, U.S. & Europe. 35 years in business. Call Paul Segal Auto Driveaway 481-9194.

Autos delivered anywhere in North America by Canada's oldest established driveaway system. 225-7754, Toronto Driveaway Service.

41 Business Personals

Private Investigation and Security Service. Call Birnie - Civic Security. 766-3421.

Professional and Business Singles - meet attractive, intelligent and compatible people. Call Dr. Fren & Associates. 25 years of successful introductions. 691-7775. Anniversary specials.

Chai Introductions needs men over 40. You're missing something! 783-7666.

Reservations for Two. New Introduction Service. Business and professionals, 35 - 50 years. Revolutionary idea. Selective screening process. Easily affordable. Unequalled value. Write to: 2 Bloor West, Suite 100. Box 198, Toronto, Ontario M4W 3E2, please include phone number.

To improve your business you must improve your communications. Avoid the mail and couriers by using our FAX machine as your own. Corporate Connections Ltd. (416) 736-7449.

42 Personals Companions Wanted

Female, 30's, divorced, intelligent, one child, seeking an intelligent husband. Box #8593, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Libra, beautiful female, seeks Libra, handsome male, age 38-49 for love and marriage. Box 8602, CJN, 10 Gteway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Perhaps I am the man for you! I would love to enjoy life with someone 20's - 30's, laugh and have lasting happiness with her. I need a loving partner for a lifelong commitment based on trust and honesty. I enjoy people and am very devoted. Box #8608, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Toronto, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Jewish prince, lots of assets (except money), seeks Princess for long term relationship, 35-45. Must be adventurous, versatile, adaptable, cute and cuddly. Box #8609, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills. Ont. M3C 3A1.

A good looking, moderately slow gentleman, good natured, 31 years old, looking for same type of girl. Loves movies, dancing, sports. Went to Lewis S. Beatty Vocational School. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box #8583, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

So placing an ad is not your scene. Wake up girls, if you're 22 - 29 it's time to get up and grab a pad and pen. We are two 29 year old, fun-loving, thin, actively professional guys. We are observant and outgoing, dedicated to our work, but have many outside interests. Down to earth, unspoiled and poised. Of those still with pen in hand, if you are attractive, sensitive, sharp and adventurous, we would like to hear from you. Box 8612, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Very good looking, good natured man, early 30's, involved in profession and fitness would like to hear from attractive, considerate, fun loving female, 24-30. Reply with phone number, Box 8613, CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

50 Obituaries

SHIVA MEALS

- Tasteful presentation
- Varied selection of hot/cold menu items
- Delivery available

milken-honey

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MC KOSHER VISA
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RACHEL'S CATERING GLATT KOSHER COR150

- SHIVA DINNERS
- SHIVA PLATTERS
- HOT & COLD MENUS
- LARGE SELECTION OF DELICIOUS SALADS

243 WILMINGTON AVE.
(Bathurst Manor Plaza)
633-6661

Bendeth, Dr. Basil on December 9, 1987, late of 76 Mosedale Crescent.

Bouganim, Eliahou on December 10, 1987, late of 29 Crown Height Crescent.

Cohen, Albert on December 8, 1987, late of 300 Antibes Dr., Apt. #801.

Fogel, Oscar on December 7, 1987, late of 80 Antibes Drive, Apt. #305.

Gutfreund, Julius on December 10, 1987, late of 139 Dewbourne Avenue.

Mayer, Hedwig on December 10, 1987, late of 55 Ameer Street, #808.

Jaacobi, Benzion on December 12, 1987, late of 2700 Bathurst St., #814.

Kirke, Kathleen on December 9, 1987, late of 21 Pender Crescent.

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

Ruth Borshay on Dec. 7/87, late of 30 Sandborne Cres.

Leo Arshinoff on Dec. 5/87, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., #602.

Eva Haras on Dec. 7/87, late of 4 Whittington Ct.

Sharon Cole on Dec. 7/87, late of 24 Breen Cres.

Sydney Shuman on Dec. 7/87, late of 79 Ava Rd.

Fred Wald on Dec. 9/87, late of 5 Markdale Ave. #3.

Bessie Manus on Dec. 8/87, late of 1460 Avenue Rd. #3.

Sally Smith on Dec. 9/87, late of 240 Heath St. W. #704.

William Ross on Dec. 10/87, late of 291 Churchill Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Appliances

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Business Outlook

THBA deals with fine print in sales contracts

TORONTO —

The Toronto Home Builders Association has come to the rescue of all those who have ever been left puzzled by the fine print in a bill of sale for a house.

The Association has drawn up a standard contract for its members which, it says, should cut down on some of the misunderstandings caused by the 250 or so different types of contracts in use across Toronto. Some contracts, however, will still vary because of differing municipal requirements and subdivision agreements.

The new form should be available this spring.

The new contract's advantages are many, says the THBA. For starters, it will be easier to read because its type size will be larger than the print of most legal documents.

Moreover, because the builders will be ordering the contracts from the THBA, changes to the contract will have to be made on the document itself. This will prevent redrafts from being disguised by fine print.

The new contract will also bear a warning about supplementary realty tax assessments and possible increases in mortgage interest rates--costs which can affect the purchaser's cash flow after the closing. In addition, the new document will use bold print to show land use regulations arising from municipal subdivision agreements.

A special feature of the new contract, says the THBA, is the incorporation in the actual text itself of the Ontario new home warranty's addendum which became a mandatory attachment to all home builders' documents last spring.

The new agreement takes special note of the type of alterations which might lower a home's value and which used to be left almost entirely up to a builder. The document will note that such revisions cannot be made without the buyer's consent.

Homebuyers will also have to be notified when ever the builder is unable to finish the home in the way agreed upon by both buyer and builder. If, for example, the builder cannot provide a certain fixture or paint a wall in a particular color, he'll have to notify the buyer.

The new agreement also helps those who may have lost their mortgages because of delays in closing by giving such buyers an interval to find alternative financing.

In addition, the new contract makes plain that the builder must do the job to a "workmanlike" standard, abide by the Ontario Building Code and accept liability for all construction liens.

The new form will be printed so that it can be "customized" by the addition of a THBA member's name and logo. The form will also be made available to the public. People wanting a copy should call 229-HOME.

Noise reduction research

RAMAT GAN —

Funding for the next two years for research on the use of textiles for noise reduction purposes has been received through a grant from John Lain, Plc of London.

Dr. Yakir Shoshani, who heads the project for Shenkar's department of textile technology, began the theoretical work two years ago while on sabbatical at North Carolina State University. Feasibility tests conducted during the past year at Shenkar have shown that textiles can be used as noise control elements.

Preliminary studies have already suggested several applications suitable for aircraft and automobile manufacturers as well as home and office building construction.

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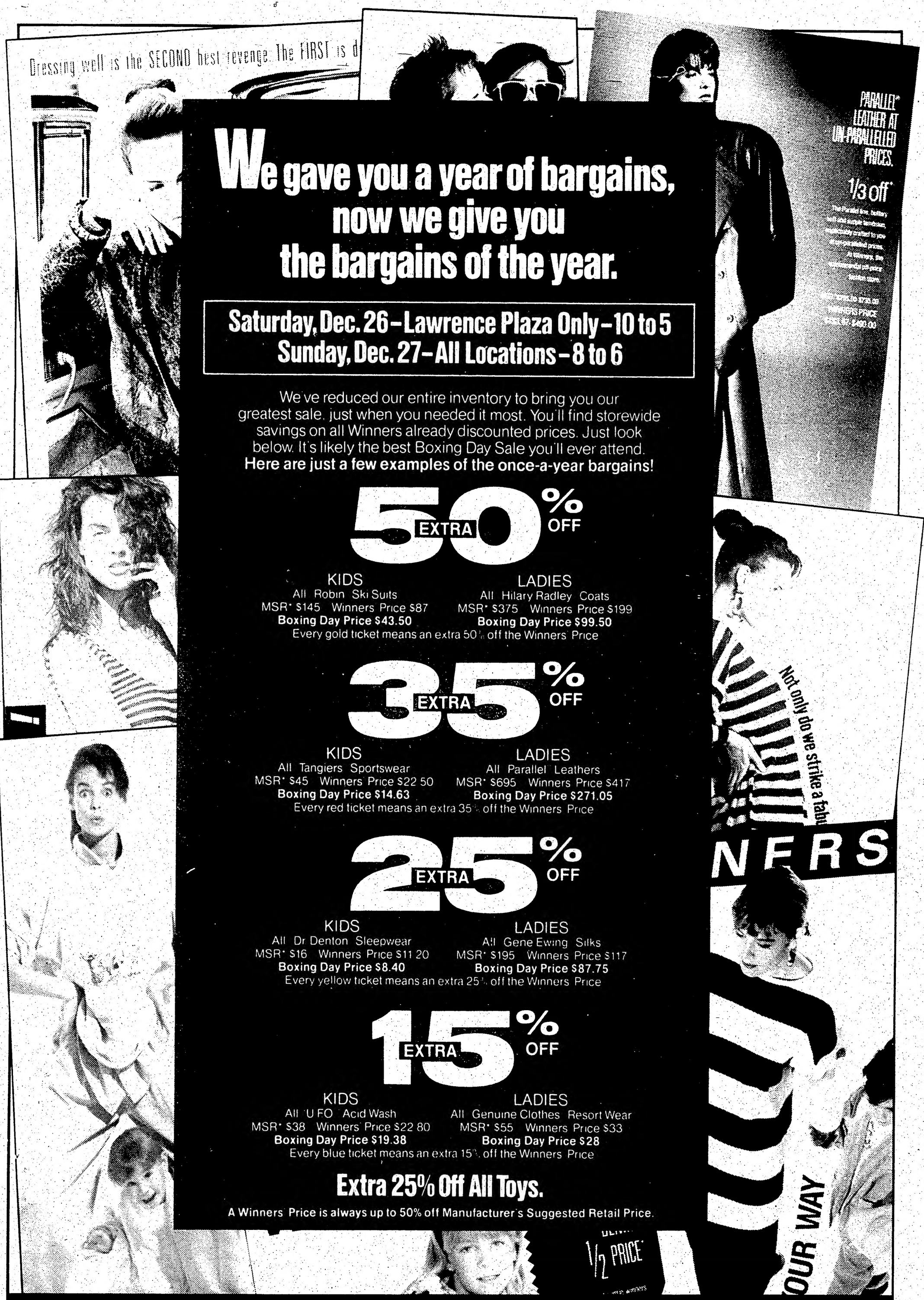
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